THE JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWSCHOPKINS
LETTER

Welcome to Baltimore...

THECITY THAT LOVES YOU BACK

INSIDE: Student shot by angry neighbor Story, page 30

Cover-Letter 9.5.2002

"If you don't like something,

change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain."

-Maya Angelou

Buckle up, it's going to be a wild ride

Dear Class of 2006,

So, you've made it. You're finally out of your parents' house, living on your own, no rules, no curfew. So now what? Well, we're sure by now you've been told that college will be the best four years of your life. We're here to tell you, that statement couldn't be truer.

But just like a cheap French hooker with no teeth, you're going to have to work for it. Hopkins has so much to offer, but you have to seek it out. This issue will hopefully let you know a bit of what our school and the city of Baltimore have to offer. So get out there and show some leg.

You've also probably been told that your college experience will be what you make of it. This trite statement is only partly true. It doesn't mean that you have to work your ass off to make it the greatest experience ever. The key is getting off your ass and taking the first couple steps. From there, it's a piece of cake. Now, enough about your ass.

Get off Instant Messenger, disconnect the Playstation and turn off American Idol (though we must interject that it's a fabulous show and Kelly Clarkson deserves the title). Go outside, go to a party, start a club or if you're crazy enough, write for the News-Letter. Or just go out and get laid; either

one. Your options are truly endless, and if you really believe that, this experience will be nothing short of unforgettable.

We know Orientation has been difficult, and trying to call this place home, and these strangers your new best friends, is all but impossible at first. But if we impart anything throughout these 32 pages, it's the wisdom that this staff now carries with them after having been there and done that.

We're not a state school. We won't be winning national football championships, and we won't be winning any Playboy awards for the hottest students. Hopkins has a flavor all its own. You could taste it and complain about it every day, or you could add your own spice to the mix. You decide.

Special thanks to: Mike and Turbo and the rest of the N-L staff who brought us to greatness, Raphael for the cover photos, shampoo the homeless guy, all of the very gracious members of the faculty and student body who were interviewed and of course the Notorious B.I.G.

Word to your motha, Jeff Katzenstein and Emily

Focus/Special Editions Editors

Table of Contents





SATs don't do the laundry: welcome to college



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

Welcome to JHU. From now on, people will be asking you if you're a doctor.

You're finally on your own and it's a bit scarier than you thought. Well, don't worry, let us assure you that the road to success is almost always paved with just a little bit of failure.

By Ishai Mooreville

The word "college" brings to mind images of professors in bow-ties, animal house style fraternities, imposing architecture, crammed full dorm rooms and crowds at the big games. A new Hopkins student will find all of those things here, but look further. The college years will have a deep impact on the way you perceive the world around you, people and nature.

Being a college student also requires a great amount of self-reliance. No longer are your parents right behind you, looking over your shoulder. It all comes down to you: who you are, who you want to be, who will you become.

For all intents and purposes, you are an adult. Not only can you buy cigarettes and dirty magazines, you can be tried under full penalty of the law. From here on out, every decision will be your own - when to study, when to work, when to party, when to eat, when to sleep, when to shower. And please, do remind your neighbors to shower if they start to neglect them-

Johns Hopkins University. The name sounds big, but as you meet more people, the place becomes more friendly and tight-knit. Make an effort in the first couple weeks to meet anyone you can. The friendships you make now will hopefully stay with you throughout your college years. You will discover many people from various countries, religions and races. Some of your peers will be among the smartest people you have ever met. You might look at others and wonder how the hell they got past the first grade. But don't ignore or pass over anybody. Whenever you have the opportunity, talk to someone new and expand your horizons. Everyone has something to share, though sometimes it takes a little digging to find it.

Don't be intimidated by professors. They are here to educate and help you through any difficulties you might have. Go to the office hours of the professors you like most and have conversations with them. The result will be that they like you more and you will learn more. This next piece of advice is over-given, always ignored and still absolutely true: don't leave all your papers and studying to the last minute. Not only will your grades suffer, but your body can break under the intense stress that bad time-management can produce. Also, the dorms are germbreeding grounds and it is easier than you think to catch something nasty. There's nothing worse than being sick as a dog alone in your small, depressing dorm room. Trying to get enough sleep is key, as well as investing in a multivitamin which can help you keep your energy up during long and tedious study sessions.

In fact, one of the keys to a good college experience comes down to figuring out how to put your time to the

best use possible. At every turn there will be clubs, sports, lectures, classes, parties, concerts, plays and homework: You have to decide which are your priorities and then stick to them. Balance your studies with activities you really enjoy. If you love to act, join the theater, if you love to help others, do some community service, if you love to throw discs, join

the ultimate Frisbee team, if you love to write, well, join the News-Letter. Find the activities you like and join them as soon as possible: It's the best way to make new friends and find people with similar interests. At the same time, don't ignore your classes and spend all your time banging down fraternity doors. What are you paying \$35,000 dollars a year for anyway? Six-packs are cheaper without the education attached.

You will make mistakes. You will stay awake until 4 a.m. before a 9 a.m. class. You will forget to set your alarm. You will twist an ankle running to class. You will forget your books. You will ask a

question that was just answered by a professor. You will fall asleep in the front row. You will lose your JCard and find it with all your credit gone. You will eat too much cafeteria food. You will miss practice. You will leave 10 papers until the night before. You will walk around Baltimore at night by

yourself. You will waste time on the Internet. playing video games, watching TV. You will drink too much. You will lock yourself out of your room. You will lose your toothbrush.

When comes to picking courses, don't just take the required classes, but try

something new and interesting that you might know nothing about. A class in philosophy might change your entire worldview. A class in physics might shed light on a process you never understood before. A class in the writing seminars might teach you to express yourself in ways you haven't dreamed about. There are a world of possibilities out there, and only four years. This is a fresh beginning. So have an open mind, take a deep breath, step out onto the quad and realize that you are finally in college. Pick up that Frisbee on the ground and throw it as far as you

Johns Hopkins University. The name sounds big, but as you meet more people, the place becomes more friendly and tight-knit.

HASTA LA *VISA*, BABY!

College marks the first experience with credit cards for many students. This inexperience, combined with relentless promotions from credit card companies, leads many people into credit trouble that proves hard to rectify.

The first thing to know about credit cards is that credit is not free money — they expect to get paid back. If you always pay your balance in full by the end of the month, you won't have any problems. People start getting into trouble when they keep large balances. Sooner than they think, introductory interest rates expire and they find them-selves paying upwards of 20 percent interest, making it harder still to pay off the complete balance.

Also, be very wary about the barrage of credit card offers that target college students with promises of free junk for filling out an application. Many of these cards have annual fees, which are generally unnecessary since there are a wide variety of cards that don't charge annual fees.

If that doesn't scare you into watching your credit, keep in mind that the mistakes you make in college will show up on your credit report, where they will remain, haunting you when you need a loan for a car or a house

— Charles Donefer

The Essential-lopkins: 21 Things You Just Gotta Do Before Graduation

By Jeremiah Crim and Charles Donefer

The date is May 24, 2006. You are squirming on an uncomfortable hoverfolding-chair, staring up at your Class President giving a boring speech behind the hover-dais, underneath a giant hover-folding-tent set up for the occasion on the field behind Mittal Hall (completed in 2005).

It's your graduation, and after four years of hard work (and incredible advances in hover-technology), your time at Johns Hopkins will come to an end. When your attention wanders during the President's exhortations to make the world a better place, you may look at your diary of the last four years, which is conveniently implanted in your brain. Will it be interesting, full of cherished memories of parties, bull-sessions and arrests for Indecent Exposure At A National Monument, or will you wish you had failed four or so classes, adding one more semester to the best years of your

As a freshman, now is the time to start thinking about making time for what really matters. Here is a list of things you ought to do before it's too late, lest you spend the rest of your life wondering why you didn't take more advantage ofhover-beer-bongs while they were still

1. Spend an evening on the roof of

Here's a rule of thumb for late-night cavorting around campus: if it isn't locked, you aren't technically breaking in. Therefore, you can rest assured that you probably won't get in trouble for going to the roof of Bloomberg, which is accessible from a door on one of the stairways. Once you're on the roof, you will see amazing views of Wyman Park, Hampden and northern Baltimore. · Come up at around 3 a.m., have a liquid picnic and groove out on the fresh air until the sun rises. Just remember to bring back whatever you've brought up and try to keep from being too loud so as to avoid waking up at Central Booking.

2. Go to Lexington Market

Did you know that it is possible to deep-fry broccoli? Well, the folks at this Downtown institution can take anything even vaguely good for you and turn it into a glob of golden cholesterol. Home to many food stands serving fried crab cakes, fried chicken, fried cauliflower and other greasy goodies, this is the place to go if you want to simultaneously fulfill most of your food cravings at once and take years off of your life just by getting near a heaping pile of onion

3. Do Halloween at Fell's Point

You will recognize me as the guy in the David Byrne "Big White Suit" dancing on top of a car, offering beads for women to expose themselves. Then again, there will probably be four or five people wearing and doing the exact same thing, so you ought to try me on my cell phone first.

4. Spend the summer in Baltimore

Most people can't wait to load up the ol' minivan and hightail it up (or down) I-95 once finals end; they don't know what they're missing. Quite a few upperclassmen stay in Baltimore all year round, and with good reason. Despite the muggy weather and the constant threat of West Nile Virus, it's not that hard to enjoy yourself without spending your weekend evenings in a leaky frat house basement. During the summer, you can buy some cheap art at Artscape, catch the Independence Day fireworks from Fort McHenry, or just down a yard of beer at the Owl Bar for happy hour and hop a Hopkins shuttle back to Shriver, freaking out a busload of foreign grad students in the process. During the summer, the city is your oyster, or perhaps your crab.

5. Go to Canada

Did you know that it's only eight hours to the border? That means that if you leave Baltimore at noon, you could be partying in Toronto by 10 p.m. Why Canada? For starters, the exchange rate and the power of purchasing power parity (say that three times fast) makes almost everything you buy cost about a third less. Add to this the fact that the drinking age is 19 and the fact that nearly all the women are hot and you have a road trip that is nearly impossible to pass up. If that isn't enough, think about these three words: duty free liquor.

6. Get into a local band

When they're playing Madison Square Garden, you might have a better chance of getting backstage to the booze and orgies if the drummer recognizes you as one of the three people who saw them play at Paloma's back when they all had day jobs.

7. Do some "anatomical research" in the MSE stacks

Sure, it's tasteless, vulgar and might get you banned from C-level for life if you get caught, but getting down to business in the library is something you can always hold over the heads of those fools who thought that the library was a building best appreciated with your fly securely in the upright and locked position. (Editor's Note: Charles just wishes he'd done this.)

8. Go to Vaccaro's on a Monday

For a set fee, you can have all the desert you want. Gorge yourself on a full variety of sweet goodies. After eating their famous "Lost At See" desert, you will finally know the true meaning of the phrase "sugar high."

9. Go to the BMA

It's free. It's on campus. It's a damn good museum. Even if you're not an artsy-fartsy gallery type, you should at least take a quick walk around, just to see what's there. In addition, it's a great free date that makes you look as if you know that Goya isn't just a brand of Mango juice.

10. Do an all-nighter in DC

Get on your Eurotrashiest clothes and head down on the MARC to our nation's capital. Hit as many bars and clubs as possible. Once booze-serving establishments close at 3 a.m., head up to 18th Street in Adams Morgan for a slice of pizza at Pizza Mart or some breakfast at The Diner. Then, watch the sun rise on the Washington Monument and head back to Union Station for the first train home.

11. Hire a limousine for something silly

If everyone chips in, it's cheaper then you might imagine. For my friend's birthday, we jumped in a stretch Lincoln with a cooler full of booze and a trunk full of food and headed down to the Jefferson Memorial for a picnic. Once we convinced the Park Police that the booze was still in the limo, we happily noshed in the shadow of one of our founding fathers. It was nice. A variation: hire a limo to drive you to the front door of one of

the following: a frat party, an examoran Ethics Board hearing.

12. Go to Preakness

Even if you think that breeding and racing horses for entertainment and gambling is an immoral violation of animal rights, you should go to this Triple Crown race anyway, since you rarely see any horses at Pimlico. What you do see is 80,000 drunk, semi-drunk and very-drunk Marylanders hanging out on folding chairs, occasionally flashing one another, in the infield. It's BYOB, so you won't go bankrupt trying to get a buzz. Besides, it's one of those amazing local institutions that makes living in the syphilis capital of America for four years very nearly worthwhile. For bonus points, read Hunter S. Thompson's short story "The Kentucky Derby is Decadent and Depraved" and try to model your Preakness experience on his trip to the Derby.

13. Take a relatively long trip to somewhere obscure

It's good for the soul. This semester, I'm driving to Pennsylvania to take a tour of the Utz pretzel factory. Once again, you should do something other people haven't even thought of doing. Be original.

14. Watch George Bush feed a giant

There's just one place that this might happen, and it's only an hour south of Baltimore. D.C. not only serves as the seat of our nation's capitol but also plays host to the National Zoo and 14 of the Smithsonian Institute's 16 museums all open to the public and free of charge. It's also a great place to see concerts the 9:30 Club and universities like George Mason consistently bring topof-the-line performers. And, since every Political Science student at Hopkins eventually gets an internship down there, you're sure to run into someone you know... always a good excuse to visit one of the great restaurants in the

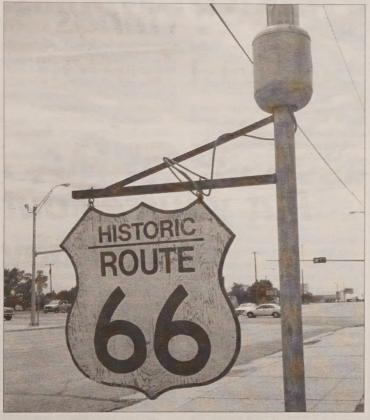
15. Pretend you're Rocky

Running up the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art in the middle of the night is a pretty popular activity - there.

Consider it a license to be adventurous in your eating choices. In Baltimore, you'll encounter various kinds of

Continued on Page 5





JEREMIAH CRIM/NEWS-LETTER

Take a road trip one weekend and explore life beyond Charles Village.

Continued from Page 4

cuisine - some completely foreign to your taste buds and stomach, but all worth trying. Visit Akbar's for Indian food, Holy Frijoles for Mexican and Petit Louis for French fare. Italian lovers should have no problem satisfying their cravings in Little Italy. North of campus in Towson, you'll find fondue at the Melting Pot, wings at Bill Bateman's and all kinds of meat at Andy Nelson's Pit BBQ. Thai Restaurant, just a few blocks from campus on Greenmount Ave., should not be overlooked, and you can even find Afghani food at the Helmand. Of course the Baltimore eating experience isn't complete without seafood from one of many restaurants near the Harbor. For the big spenders only — try to eat at a restaurant in each of the following neighborhoods in a single week: Mt. Vernon, Federal Hill, Hampden, Canton, Fell's Point, Towson and Mt. Washington.

16. Swim in the president's pond

Probably not the best idea ... but if you're drunk enough to try this one, you're definitely having a great time at Spring Fair. As if three days of funnel cakes, chicken-on-a-stick and fruit smoothies in yard-long glasses weren't enough of an excuse to act stupid, we get a Beer Garden too. So make sure that when April rolls around, you're out of your room and drinking beer on President Brody's front lawn. At least if you aren't the one who jumps in the pond this year, you'll be there to see the

person who does.

17. Pick Brody's pockets

Wouldn't it be nice to get back some of the \$27,000 that you handed over to the school a month ago? Well, you came to the right school. Hopkins has ridiculous amounts of money to give away to students - all you have to do is ask. And don't worry... getting a grant doesn't necessarily mean you'll be sitting in a lab looking through a microscope all day. People receive funding to do all kinds of things: interview leaders of different religions around the world; study the effects of sleep deprivation on college students; build a Web site that teaches students how to play the double bass; or even take a road trip across the country on Route 66. What will you do with your "tuition return"?

18. Sign up for classes with your eyes closed

Try it once: Just pick them out of a hat, and see what you come up with. You'll probably find something interesting that you never would have known about because it isn't taught by your department. After all, being a biology major, for example, shouldn't exclude you from the chance to learn about the "Seven Wonders of the Modern World," the art of Renaissance Italy, or the algorithms that drive search engines on the Internet. You have the rest of your life to do work in your chosen

discipline, so take advantage of the fact that you can also take classes in various unrelated, but interesting, areas while you're in college.

19. Burn some calories during January

That's right — get off your lazy ass. Yes, Intersession is completely optional. You can sit at home for almost a month after New Years, and nobody here will care. But you'll be missing out on the opportunity to do much more. During Intersession alone, you can learn about journalism in New York City; tour the major art historical sites in Florence, Italy; or swim in the ocean off of Cuba or the Galapagos Islands. And you'd rather be at home? Even if you don't get into one of the more popular classes, January is your chance to try something you've always wanted to do, without the pressure of other classes or commitments. So critique your friends' creative writing just below the Gilman clock. Or learn how to tell a good wine from a bad one. Just don't sit on the couch all month.

20. Suck up to your professors

Maybe that's what other people will think you're doing if they see you talking to someone with a PhD tacked onto the end of their name, but who cares? There are some brilliant people working at this University, and you're here to learn from them. So speak up. According to a policy reinstated last year, you can even go to lunch with a faculty member for free. So what are you waiting for? If nothing more, getting to know your professors now will make it a lot easier to ask them for recommendations when it's time to apply for grad school.

21. Go down by the river

... or the stream that runs through Wyman Park. While it's still warm, grab a case of beer (or a box of 40s, whatever your pleasure), a boom box and make an afternoon of it with five or six people. If you get drunk enough, you might want to take a dip in the Jones Falls (the stream's real name). Try to avoid that urge—the water isn't exactly fit for bottling. Instead, enjoy the empowering lesbian graffiti by the bridge to the BIA field and knock back another cold one.

GO TO A REAL ANIMAL HOUSE

Looking for something different to do on a lazy Sunday afternoon? Go to the Baltimore Zoo where you can be a kid again with fun new things such as the ZooChoo train, the Carousel, the climbing wall, Tugger's Jungle Adventure and an inflated air tunnel in the Safari Square.

More interested in a nice place for a date? Well, you can pack a picnic lunch and sit at one of the tables amidst the wild life. This is a nice way to get off the Homewood campus for a while and have some good clean old fashion fun.

The Zoo has more than 2,000 animals such as chimpanzees, elephants, snakes and leopards. I could list the rest of them, but I think it'd be simpler if you just took a look for yourself. If you can't make it there, however, there is a Zoomobile which will come to you for events or parties with a caravan full of petable creatures.

There are even opportunities to learn about endangered wild life, with many classes offered in "edZOOcation." And, hey, if you always wanted a pet but your building doesn't allow one, the Baltimore Zoo offers the opportunity to adopt different animals. If you feel the urge, run wild through the wilderness tour, but remember not to feed the monkeys.

Must see exhibits:

Africa-Tropical forests, African plains, savannas, watering holes and chimpanzees.

Main Valley-Snow leopards, flamingos, King Island walabees, prairie dogs and polar bears.

Reptile House-herptiles (reptiles and amphibians), 7-foot long blood python, 1-inch poison dart frog.

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For more information call: General information and events (recording) 410-366-LION

Administration 410-396-7102 Group Sales/Rentals 410-396-6165

Or visit: www.baltimorezoo.com

Address: The Baltimore Zoo Druid Hill Park Baltimore, MD 21217

-COMPILED BY EMILY MAYER

Why is Hopkins the way it is? Syphilis!

By Martin Marks

Though it was Socrates who said "Know thyself," I say, as my advice to the incoming class of 2006, "Know the history of thy university." While still uncertain whether or not "thine" was the correct pronoun for that last sentence, I can say with certainty that I'm extremely uncertain as to the history of our University.

From the countless admissions brochures, campus tours and wild nights at Phi Psi, the task of learning the history of one's university can often get confusing. Therefore, I've decided to give you this gift — a handy guide to the inception of our great University, from the moment when Mommy Hopkins decided she loved Daddy Hopkins very much, and started to rub up against ... well, that's another column.

The University was founded in 1876 with a grant from Johns Hopkins. This grant wouldn't have been possible if it had been legal in Maryland for a person to marry his sister, as our university's founder had apparently been planning to do since his youth.

Previously known as John Hopkins, a scorching bout of syphilis (which he probably caught from his sister) left the university's founder with a rather severe neurological disorder, the result being that he believed that he was not just one but many "Johns."

However, all of this didn't stop Johns Hopkins from becoming a failed architecture student who eventually became an entrepreneur and donated large sums of money to have his failed architecture thesis built on campus.

Henceforth, we have had the beautiful Glass Pavilion as our legacy here at JHU, and Mr. Hopkins' first name, Johns, has entered modern architectural vocabulary as a slang word for not just one but many "toilets".

The first president of the university, Daniel Coit Gilman, established the goal of our little university on a hill, namely, the "encouragement of research till one's ears bleed from an over-

ingestion of theoretical Physics." Luckily, the university managed to disregard these words and still build up a fine Arts and Sciences school that encourages research till one's ears bleed from an over-ingestion of Proust.

The Homewood campus itself was built in the 1920s off of Charles Street. The decision to build the new Homewood location on a hill was for a cause most dear to the departed Mr. Hopkins' goal as a university, to ward off the syphilis epidemic raging just a few blocks away on Greenmount Ave, because as everybody knows, syphilis can't spread uphill.

But I jump way ahead of myself. Jump back to when Magna Charta was being signed in Europe. Around this time, Hopkins trustees envisioned some sort of residences in the memory of past Hopkins alumni, built these buildings and named them, quite inventively, the Alumni Memorial Residences.

These buildings are named after some of our most prestigious alumni, such as Adams, Gildersleeve, Sylvester, Griffin, Vincent, Ravenclaw, Hufflepuff, Slytherin and perhaps our most important alums, the brothers Building A and B.

With the fire resistance of kerosene drenched charcoal and harbor-rats that have been known to take down airborne swordfish, you freshmen get to live in buildings that form an important part of Hopkins history. Namely, the un-air-conditioned part.

Freshmen, you shall follow in the footsteps of a most distinct and respected class of scholars. Our famous alums here at the Johns Hopkins University have included Alger Hiss, Spiro Agnew, Michael Bloomberg, Joseph Stalin (SAIS graduate) and Charles Manson. Interestingly, all our famous alums have some sort of combination of being communists, drug addicts or prison inmates.

Apparently Woodrow Wilson also attended our college but preferred, as so many of the alumni chose to do, to tell people that he went to Princeton instead. The point being that there have been some pretty impressive people that are Hopkins alums who, more often than not, have spent time in minimum security federal institutions. At least it's something to strive for.

In recent years, we have seen a Michael Bloomberg-shaped cloud creep across our campus, heralding forth the wondrous Bloomberg hall, as well as his other additions, such as the

beautiful new brick work and the playful animatronic squirrels that can be seen frolicking across campus.

Thus, young freshmen, it is an exciting time for you to be joining us within the history of our fair university.

Go out there, and find happiness; or, if not that, drink your way to happiness.

Just watch out for downhill areas. There's syphilis about!

Put yourself out there, baby

By Liz Steinberg

Early this past summer, I was driving through Baltimore with two friends, heading out to dinner in Baltimore's Canton neighborhood. As the Inner Harbor gave way to Little Italy, followed by blocks of tidy, well-kept Victorian row houses, one of my passengers expressed amazement.

I didn't know neighborhoods like this existed in Baltimore, he told me. This can be expected from a freshman who's just moved to Maryland.

However, my friend had just graduated. And, I know for a fact that he didn't like Baltimore. Well, no wonder. I'd be bored out of my mind if I spent my four years confined to an area the size of Charles Village, with an occasional excursion to the Inner Harbor (a.k.a. Anyplace, USA) for variety.

So, freshmen, as you move into the shoebox you'll be calling home for the next nine months, keep in mind that there's more to life than frat parties, Beast and D-Level, although I would recommend trying all of the above at least once. They're integral parts of the Hopkins experience.

Just don't overdo any of the above. Yes, first semester is pass/fail (or, to be precise, satisfactory/unsatisfactory), so go out, make friends and don't stress it too much, but you still do want to pass.

If you're lucky, you're living in an AMR double. Yes, that means you have the least amount of personal space the University could possibly afford you. But this also places you in the closest proximity to a large percentage of your class. But it also means you don't have to try too hard to go out and meet people — they're practically living on top of you.

Eat in the dining halls — at least once in a while. No one is pretending it's good. Nor are we pretending that it is good. However, like the AMRs, the dining halls are a great place to meet people. And, like the dorms, the "food" is a powerful bonding experience.

Join clubs. Join lots of them.

Once you've got on-campus life covered, pick up a copy of City Paper (free on street corners as well as in Wolman/McCoy) and flip to the calendar or the dining section. Pick a concert, a festival or a restaurant that sounds interesting and go there. You probably won't be going to a neighborhood that you know. But that's the point.

There are many ways to get around. One day, when the weather is nice, walk to the Inner Harbor. Just go straight south on Charles or St. Paul streets (beware: Charles St. detours in front of Penn Station) and you'll be there in an hour. Or, take a city bus somewhere.

Don't be afraid of the city. Yes, there's crime. Yes, there are bad neighborhoods. People get mugged. But it's not all bad. Baltimore has a fantastic arts scene, a wide variety of restaurants and a ton of bars. Just be aware of your surroundings, and when you're walking around after dark, go with a friend or two.

Spend a summer in Baltimore. Take a part-time class or get an internship. Or just get a job. You won't have the stresses of the semester keeping you busy, and you'll have more time to explore the city. You'll have no problem finding other students in town. And you'll probably find that you like Baltimore much better when you don't have to worry about passing 15 credits.

Speaking of getting off campus, spend a semester or two studying abroad. Later in life, it's going to be a lot harder to pack up and move to a foreign country for six months to a year. Your club/significant other/major can wait for you. I never studied abroad for all of the above reasons. You should.

You have four years here. Right now, that may seem like a lot of time. In some ways, it is. In four years, it won't be. Most people will tell you college is the best four years of your life. Just remember, they say that for a reason. Find it.

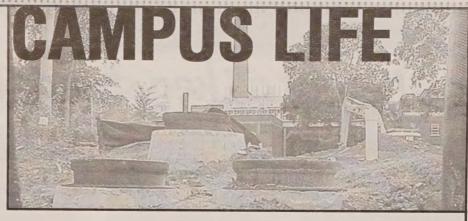


RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER
One of our founding fathers, pictured here, had two last names. Whoa.



Where we love is our home. Home that our feet may leave, but not our hearts.

— Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.



AMRs: Get over your fear of mice

By Courtney Rice

To those of you — probably about half the freshman class — who will be spending the rest of the year in one of the Alumni Memorial Residences (AMRs), let me be the first to say, "I know how you feel"

At this time last year, I was in the exact same place — 252 Gildersleeve to be precise. While I was pleased to be living in a place whose name reminded me vaguely of Harry Potter, I was otherwise dismayed by my housing situation. My new friends who lived in Buildings A and B or Wolman had their own bathrooms, climate control, pre-carpeted floors and in some cases even a kitchenette. I had none of these and my room was a hell of a lot smaller.

I won't lie to you; aesthetically, the AMRs suck. There are ways, however, to make the most of your dorm environment despite its shortcomings. Here are my suggestions for surviving the AMRs:

1. Get over your fear of mice. Yes, mice. These ugly rodents must have missed the mailing about the university's no-pets rule because you'll find them in almost all the dorms and especially the AMRs.

My preliminary advice is to avoid mouse infestation altogether by keeping your room relatively clean. Make sure any food is stored in closed containers, preferably off the ground and thus away from mice. Vacuum the floor to get rid of crumbs. Also, make sure the ceiling tiles are not loose because the mice like to hang out up there.

If precautions don't work, talk to someone in the housing office. They will provide mousetraps to help catch your critter for free, though sophomore Vicki Nelson warns that they will stink up your room. "My advice is to plant food in your neighbor's room and hope it goes over there," she joked.

2. Though the AMR dorm rooms are quite small, there are ways to maximize your space. Don't be afraid to rearrange your furniture to suit your needs. Some people prefer to bunk their beds to maximize floor space. Others do a full loft so that they can fit their desk and chest of drawers easily underneath their bed. I did a half-loft, leaving ample room to store my clothing. Use this time before classes start to experi-

ment with different setups until you find the one that suits you.

3. Once you've found the best furniture arrangement, the next step is to make your room more livable. I suggest that you invest in a carpet. There's not really room for chairs for guests, so they'll appreciate a soft carpet to sit on instead of that dirty linoleum floor. It also makes being barefoot in your room a little less gross.

It's important to infuse your room with personal touches, like posters along the pegboard walls so that it starts to feel more like home. The best decorative device, though, is a fan – Baltimore can get pretty hot and the AMRs aren't air-conditioned.

4. Once you have your room looking nice, the next big hurdle is the communal bathroom. There is one huge benefit about the traditional dorm environment: Unless you live in Hollander or Royce, you're likely to see plenty of eye-candy wearing nothing but towels on the way to the showers. I suggest planning your day around your favorite co-ed's shower schedule.

Unfortunately, the benefits of the communal bathrooms end there. By mastering a few basic rules of bathroom etiquette, however, you can make the experience more pleasant for everybody. First, try to cut down your shower time to no more than fifteen minutes. Most bathrooms have three shower stalls, so if everybody observes this limit, you will rarely have to wait in line.

Second, make a point to swipe an extra roll of toilet paper from the bathroom when you see one. Our bathroom had a nasty habit of running out of this staple on weekends, when the cleaning service is erratic. You and your neighbors will appreciate having that extra roll available when you find your toilet paper has been used up or stolen.

Also, it's important to be clean and germ-free despite the bacterial breeding ground you live in, so make sure you wear flip-flops to protect your feet from whatever might be growing on the shower floor. And don't be fooled – the hand soap provided by the school is not antibacterial. My bathroom had a benevolent soap fairy who donated antibacterial soap from time to time, something we all appreciated. You may also choose to keep a bottle of hand sanitizer in your room.

"Neverremove the drains in the showers, or it releases the horrible, horrible bugs that live down there. One crawled into our room, and my roommate and I screamed like little girls until the girl next door came in to squash it for us," adds former Clark resident Brennan Greene. "Also, the bathrooms really won't be gender specific, especially when the drunks come back on late Friday night/Saturday morning."

5. Since you don't have a kitchenette, you obviously won't be doing much cooking. There are ways, though, to do basic foods right in your dorm room. I recommend renting at least one MicroFridge for your room; it's the only way you're allowed to have a microwave, and this gives you hundreds of food possibilities. Also, you are allowed to use the common kitchen in the basement and can borrow basic kitchen implements from the housing office.

6. Another good investment for an AMR dweller is a quality set of earplugs. Those hallways get pretty rowdy, especially after midnight and extra-especially after the frat parties. The com-

I challenge you to find a former AMR dweller who wishes they lived somewhere else their freshman year.

munal bathroom and close proximity to your neighbors is conducive to increased socializing, but this can come as a detriment to your sleeping and studying patterns.

If you require absolute silence to study, make friends with the library right now. Also, Sundays are common study days, so you'll find it easier to focus in the AMRs. During the day, when many students are in and out of classes, you will find quieter periods for naps and study sessions.

7. My final bit of advice is about how to have a good time without getting in trouble. For people living in any dorm, it helps to have a hall "alcoholic." That person can set you up with drinks for the year and they'll be the one holding the alcohol, which keeps you out of trouble. Also, if you do plan to store anything illegal (alcohol, drugs, pets, candles, coffeemakers, dead bodies, etc.), make sure they are hidden in your wardrobe or another enclosed area. The RAs are not supposed to open anything unless they have reason to believe that you are hiding something illegal. And, if you're drunk, stay away from the dorms until you're a little steadier - the RAs don't want to bust you unless you are blatantly gone.

For those of you living in AMR 2, you may have already discovered that dry erase markers can be used on the ugly bathroom-ish tile hallway walls. We decorated our hallway that way last year and also used the wall for study sessions. Be warned - always erase your mess before the next cleaning shift or they'll fine you. (AMR 1 residents do not have these lovely dry erase walls in their hallways, but you may wish to bring a marker with you on your travels anyway. You could leave a trail to help you find your way back to your room via the confusing, cavernous hallways of the second-and-a-half floor.)

Other ways to avoid getting fined by housing (or worse...) include not throwing fire extinguishers out of windows, not pulling fire alarms at three in the morning and generally avoiding any Hollander-oriented fiascoes.

At this point, you are probably even less optimistic about living in the AMRs, so allow me to end on a positive note. While I concede that the AMRs aren't much to look at and lack many of the amenities found in other campus dorms, I challenge you to find a former AMR dweller who wishes they lived somewhere else their freshman year. The AMRs are the most social of all the dorms, and you'll grow to love the communal environment. Your neighbors will become some of your best friends, and you will treasure the memories of your crazy adventures. Your ugly little dorm room will start feeling like home in no time!

It's not all keg stands and beer pong

A guide to the fraternity scene and pledging process from someone who has been to the dark side

By Jeff Katzenstein

It's your first week at Hopkins and you've probably already seen the many fraternity houses around the neighborhood. Perhaps you've even gone inside some of them and met some of the brothers. If you browsed through any of the literature on the campus social scene, you may have also realized that one in five Hopkins students are involved in Greek life. At Hopkins, fraternities and sororities are dominant on the social scene, especially among freshmen. But if you are anything like I was when I first got here last year, there are many important questions you wished you had the answers to. What are fraternities all about, anyway? Am I a likely candidate to pledge a fraternity at Hopkins? Other than the obvious social scene, why do people pledge fraternities anyway? How does rushing and pledging work? Here's the low-down on some things you should know about fraternities at

Students decide to pledge fraternities for many different reasons. For some, the ties of brotherhood that are found within the organization make the Hopkins experience amazing and the ties as alumni invaluable. For others, reasons include the obvious draw of enhanced social life, helpful connections with other chapters nationwide or even simply being part of something that may very well improve them as people during their tenures at Hopkins.

People become brothers through two processes: rushing and pledging. Formal rush for freshmen takes place during spring semester, as every fraternity on campus holds a week-long rush program in order to get to know freshmen and so the freshmen can find what each fraternity is all about.

Towards the end of rush, each fraternity decides which rushes (the people who rushed) they want as potential brothers. If a fraternity decides that they want someone as a potential brother, they will give him a formal bid, which is an offer to pledge the fraternity. Many students get bids from more than one fraternity, and then must decide which one they would like to pledge.

If the rush accepts the bid, he begins a pledge program with all the other rushes who were given bids. Pledging usually takes one semester and is designed to build brotherhood and knowledge of the history of the fraternity. The difficulty of pledging varies from fraternity to fraternity. At the end of the pledge process, brothers decide on which pledges they would like to initiate as brothers of the fraternity.

Unfortunately, there has been and always will be a faction of Hopkins students who are anti-Greek life. Of course, here at JHU, there's a little bit of anti-everything. Most of the people who are so vehemently against Greek life have no idea what it has to offer and have probably never even attended a rush event. Many see the financial cost of being a member of a fraternity as too great and refer to joining a fraternity as "buying your friends." I challenge those who feel this way to experience the bonds made during the pledging and rush periods, and then they may fully judge the experience of being a part of a brotherhood.

If rushing does sound like something you may want try and you're a freshman, you're going to have to wait until second semester to do so. If you're a sophomore and didn't get a chance to participate in rush last year, I highly suggest that you do. As a freshman coming to Hopkins, I never pictured myself as the fraternity "type." I found out how wrong I was during the first night of rush week.

To me, not participating in any rush events, no matter what year you are, is the worst choice you could possibly make. But hey, if you love Terrace and Wolman food, don't like to meet new people and hate having fun, then by all means, stay in front of your computer, and posting messages all day on the Daily Jolt. If you find after participating in rush that fraternity life is not for you, no harm

I could add a funny segment about stereotypes of all the fraternities, but trust me, you'll know all of them before the first semester is over. The best way for you to know what each fraternity is about is to go out to some parties and meet brothers yourself. There are plenty of fraternities to choose from: Alpha Delta Phi (WaWa), Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi), Beta Theta Pi (Beta), Delta Phi (St. Elmo's), Lambda Phi Epsilon (Lambda), Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji), Phi Kappa Psi (PhiPsi), Pi Kappa Alpha (Pike), Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE), Sigma Alpha Mu (Sammy), and Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp).

Where to get drunk and learn Greek

News-Letter Staff

Currently there are 10 Inter-Fraternity Council-sponsored fraternities at Johns Hopkins. One other - St. Elmo's - is around but not in the IFC. Anyway, with a little luck and these helpful hints, you'll know where to party this semester and what to expect when you

Alpha Delta Phi

Here it is: The closest thing JHU gets to a state school frat. Comprised mostly of football, basketball and other sports team members, WaWa has the reputation for being absolutely wild.

Their parties are huge, and they usually boast plenty of fine ladies.

Alpha Epsilon Pi

This is the traditionally Jewish fraternity at Hopkins, but they've made a huge name for themselves on the social scene in the past two years. AEPi has been attracting huge crowds of freshmen into the wee hours throughout the weekend.

Cops are always a potential threat because residents in Charles Village don't take too kindly to loud, late-night bashes. A number of run-ins with police lastyear slowed AEPidown temporarily, but this fall, expect them to be back in

Beta Theta Pi

Let's just put it this way. When the party at AEPi gets broken up around midnight, walk down the street to 2921 St. Paul and visit Beta's party. You might not have to pay a cover if you bring your Palm Pilot with you.

Lambda Phi Epsilon

This is the traditionally Asian fraternity at Hopkins. While their membership is small, they throw a few major parties every semester.

They host a number of dancing-intensive bashes downtown during the

Pi Kappa Alpha

Now that they've moved into the former SAE "Crack House" on 33rd St., Pike has exploded into the upper-echelon of campus fraternities.

The Pikes throw big parties, but they have a tendency to get in trouble lately with cops and other fraternities.

Sigma Phi Epsilon

The red door on their house on 29th St. is a campus staple. Every year they have a big 1980s-themed party, as well as a "Purple Haze" bash.

Sigma Alpha Mu

Sammy used to have a death grip on the chairmanship of the MSE Symposium, and they remain active in leadership positions on campus.

As with all other smaller frat parties, it's a great place to go and get liquored up relatively cheap and without all the hassle of fighting through a sea of people to get to the bar.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Their house, on the corner of 30th St. and St. Paul Street, is another highly visible one on campus. It's also pretty loud because of the kickin' parties that go on there.

Their brothers are pretty similar to guys in Pike, and it isn't unusual to see their pledges running around doing "voluntary exercise" during the semester.

Phi Gamma Delta

Fiji boys use a lot of peroxide, that's for sure. But they're a big partying frat. Though their national declared all chapters dry a few months ago, don't expect these boys to settle down. That's what party houses are for.

Phi Kappa Psi

This was Michael Bloomberg's fraternity when he went here. That should be enough said, especially since Bloomberg has been generous in donating to their scholarship fund.

But there's more to Phi Psi than that. The guys are really laid back and generally pretty cool. Their house is amazing, but it's a haul. But if you're looking for a good stop time, Just don't bother them at 4:20 because they might be ... um ... busy.

Delta Phi (St. Elmo's)

This non-IFC fraternity has an affinity for throwing up-scale parties. You'll probably get an invitation to their back to school party.

Their numbers are small, and people generally think of Elmo's as an exclusive social club. But their parties draw huge crowds. Don't forget, however, to dress up.



Sorority Life: not as seen on TV

Life mimicking MTV? Our own sorority sister thinks not.

By Emily Mayer

In an attempt to slash all of the stereotypes about sororities as they exist on campus, I recently wondered to myself what assumptions incoming freshman may have already made about them. Well, if I was to judge by the ohso-captivating MTV show, Sorority Life, I would guess they all had fancy houses, party girls, stupid rules and self-righteous members. Let me be the first to tell you, that other than being groups of girls that like to have a good time, the rest of those characteristics couldn't be more incorrect. However, the fancy houses would be nice.

As an incoming freshman, I would have been the first to say that I would never ever join a sorority. I would laugh when my family and friends from home would ask about my intentions, and respond, "I'm not one of those girls." And then, somehow, I began to understand that Greek life at JHU was far from what I had come to know and understand from other college cam-

I began to meet extraordinary and interesting women, who were involved all over campus in every activity from Student Council to the Pre-med Honors Society to the soccer team. I also began to notice how hard it was to meet other girls who I felt were like me. So, along with a small group of girls I lived with in the dorms, I signed up for recruitment in the spring.

We had no intention of joining any organization at the time, but had heard that rushing was a great way to meet other girls around campus who may have similar interests. So we went through the intimidating process together and not only found ourselves possessing the title of sorority girl, but so many more friends through the rush

The decision is a highly personal one, but often times a matter of comfort as the outcome often leads to heightening your college experience to such an amazing level. Don't get me wrong, joining a sorority is not for everyone, but for those who want to embrace what they have to offer, it can add



LIZ STEINBERG/FILE PHOTO

Kappa Alpha Theta is one of the four Panhellenic sororities at JHU.

so much to your life.

Being a part of an organization of such smart, talented and dedicated girls is incredibly inspiring in general, not to mention helpful as sisters become study partners and friends become like family. Having a network away from home of multifaceted young women to spend

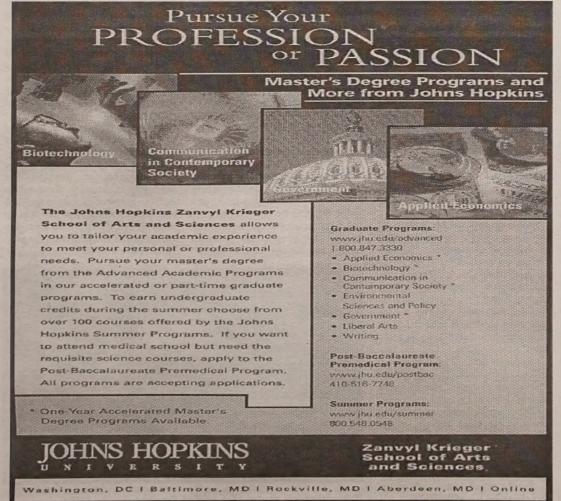
time with for a formal or date party, community service project, fund-raiser or even just sitting around studying or catching up while watching bad TV these are all benefits of being in a so-

The experience is what you make of it, much like college at Hopkins in general. You can be as involved as you want to be, with options for leadership positions within an organization, or even just use the strength of the group to pursue an interest such as a community service project.

The Greek scene for women is a small, but fast growing one. Within the Panhellenic council there exist four sororities, all of which participate in a formal recruitment program during the first week of second semester. These four sororities are Alpha Phi, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta and Phi Mu. Additionally, there is a historically Asian sorority, as well as a historically African American organization. These two hold their own programs for recruitment and are not affiliated with the formal campus-wide program of recruitment.

I'm sure over the next semester, you'll hear enough stereotypes on your own, so I won't waste space trying to recreate the ones I was told as a freshman. What I will say is don't be so quick to make judgments.

Attend some Panhellenic events in the fall, where you will meet some other freshman as well as a lot of older girls who are definitely worth getting to know. Free food and good company is never a bad combination. Even if you think that being a part of a Hopkins sorority may not be your thing, enjoy the numerous social events that are planned with you in mind. The social scene isn't exactly raging at Hopkins and you'll be glad to have a vast network of other girls to spend time with as your next four years progress.



Putting up with your "other half"

Friendly advice from students who survived bad roommates about how to treat yours

By Liz Steinberg

You've been thrust from your cushy pad at home into a cramped double with a stranger you've never met before. You're hoping for one of two things: that your roommate will be a cool person and you'll become great friends; or, if this is not the case, that you can at least get along with him or

One of my favorite roommate stories is about a friend of mine and his "mystery subletter." This summer, before my friend's roommate had left town, he had told the friend that a subletter, an old acquaintance, would be arriving shortly. So my friend was not startled when he returned to his apartment one night to find his roommate's door closed, light peeking from underneath.

As my friend settled into his nightly routine, minding his own business, he heard a distinct sshing! ... sshing! ... sshing! coming from his roommate's room. He knocked on the door and met Chuck, the subletter, as well as his full set of large, shiny knives.

Luckily, it turns out that Chuck is a chef.

Most people have heard a roommate horror story of some sort. Fortunately for my friend, Chuck turned out to be an OK guy, although he did once put my friend's glasses on top of the fridge after my friend fell asleep on the

The story of my freshman-year roommate is quite different. Anxious to get along with one another, we met in early August, a month before school started. After lunch and ice cream in Fells Point, we both declared our relief that we did indeed like each

But something went horribly wrong. Perhaps it was the stress of a new lifestyle. Whatever it was, the atmosphere in our Jennings double began to tense and sour sometime mid-Septem-

My roommate, a pre-med, changed from a night owl to an early bird to accommodate her early-morning science classes. Lights went off in our room by 10 p.m., and her alarm went off at 8 a.m. the following morning, an hour before mine. I studied sitting in the hallway, but woke her every time I entered the room.

We never really said anything to one another. We just stopped talking.

There were other incidents, too. The TV we had agreed we didn't want appeared on top of our dresser. I once returned at 4:30 a.m. to find a note on the door requesting I knock loudly before entering.

Her friends named their little clique

the "horny bitches." My friends blasted rap or punk music and left their rooms, locking the door - to piss off her friends.

When the end of the year came, we piled our belongings into boxes amidst summer's sweltering heat, and suddenly, freshman year was over. Done. We'd passed our classes, selected new rooms and roommates in Wolman and McCoy for sophomore year, and, well, we'd never have to see each other again if we chose.

There are steps you can take to avoid the "roommate from hell."

And for some reason, we both felt sad. As our families helped us carry out a year's accumulation of textbooks and clothes, we hugged, acknowledged that at times we hadn't got along (to state it mildly) and pledged to stay in touch.

Since then, I've literally seen her no more than five times. That day more than two years ago was the last time we

To this date, I only know why I grew annoved with my roommate. I don't know what problems she had with me, because we didn't talk.

Instead, we'd yell at each other every month or two.

Several roommates later, I've learned that this is not the way to build good karma. I've chosen to talk with, not yell at, all my subsequent room-

Sophomore year, my roommate and I had several conversations that probably went something like this: What on earth did you do to the kitchen? It looks like Las Vegas." "Oh, that? Christmas lights were on clearance at Kmart.'

Or, "Next time, can you not invite your boyfriend over the night before my orgo test?" "Sure, no prob-

And sometimes, "Is that green stuff in the fridge yours?" "The vegetables?" "No, I think it's meat." "Hm, maybe we should clean the kitchen.'

While we definitely were getting antsy by move-out day, we still get along. This is convenient, because we still live together. She's a good roommate, and I think she'd say the same about me.

For the record, I have never placed her glasses on top of the fridge.

I would have to say the most exciting moment in my pre-Hopkins post-high school time was finding out who my roommate was and where I was living. I thought my roommate would be my buddy, the guy that you joke around with before going to sleep and the one that helps you out with your homework. As it turns out my roommate was a near opposite of myself personalitywise, and we had no classes in common. His major was neuroscience, while I was studying history. We were bound to have a few conflicts but along the way we learned to manage each other.

We seemed like very different people but we were able to bond over a number of similarities. As far as roommates go, outside of the room we rarely if ever did anything together. However, we managed to bond over our mutual love of The Simpsons. Almost every day we would buckle down for our daily dosage of Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa and Maggie. We had more in common though. We were both intrigued by animals. I don't think any other roommates watched Marty Stoffer's Wild America together. These simple activities really helped us bond.

As is the case in every relationship, the key to having a good one is having excellent communication. Laying down a set of guidelines for you to live by is a must for roommates. Work it out together, and if the both of you have differing opinions then try to work out a compromise.

Being able to communicate works best whenever a problem occurs. Remember that when a roommate does something that bothers or angers you, most likely he did not intend to do that. I would often times stay up until 5 or 6 in the morning because of my nasty penchant for procrastinating and the fact that most of my friends are on the west coast. No matter how quiet I

By Ron Demeter thought I was, I was still keeping him up. My roommate was a genuinely nice person. He was very different from me, but a nice person. His response was to kindly ask me if I could try to be quieter. Looking back, I should have moved my studying/typing to the HAC lab, Hut or Library.

My responses were far too critical, too severe and too speculative to be justified. Our room was located on the first floor of AMR2 so unfortunately for us, cigarette smoke would often enter our room. One occasion the room smelled especially smoky, so I viciously accused him of smoking in the room. Not only was I wrong, but I offended him by thinking he would do something so disrespectful.

If a roommate, suitemate or neighbor is giving you problems, such as playing music loudly at 4 a.m., do not be afraid to confront them about it. Most people will comply with your requests. Remember, if you don't say that there is anything wrong, then the offender will continue to engage in those activities.

One of the more important qualities is to lighten up and learn to accept that there are certain things your roommate might do that really bug you. After a while you learn to not care. My roommate used to blast Phish and Grateful Dead music while studying. I can't stand either band and at first it bugged me, but after a while I became immune to their off key harmonies and improvised guitar riffs.

Having a roommate and sharing space can be a difficult task, especially if you have never shared a room before. As long as each roommate respects the other's personal space, there should be no problems. Learn to share certain items and most of all, lighten up, learn to communicate and if all else fails, go study in the library. Remember: you are stuck with this person for the year. Learn to live with them.



NEWS-LETTER STAFF/FILE PHOTO

This might mean you've been sexiled. Time to roam the AMRs...

How to eat Hopkins food

An on-campus dining guide for those still forced to eat from the meal plan

By Jeff Katzenstein

I'm off the meal plan. Perhaps that will tellyousomething about on-campus food at Hopkins. Don't get me wrong, though. The food isn't that bad. You just have to know how to eat it. Trust me, it's more complicated than just chewing.

You've already received numerous brochures about the on-campus meal plan telling you how great it is. Hey, with clever names like "Pastabilities" for their pasta bar, why couldn't it be somewhat good,

Please. Let's be realistic now. The meal plan is never going to offer lobster tails and filet mignon for two bucks a day. It isn't terrible, but it will never be perfect, no matter how much students whine and complain about it. So, while you're a freshman and have no choice but to be on the meal plan, you should learn how to survive on it without becoming one of those students who complains about everything on campus. Here is some advice from my experience last year on the meal plan:

Megabytes: A good choice, as long as you don't mind eating mainly greasy food for your meals. The best thing about Megabytes is that you can expect the same good food quality every time you go there. The main complaints that students have about Megabytes is that it takes too long to get your food and for the money you pay, you don't get much. Their burgers, chicken quesadillas, chicken fingers and buffalo chicken sandwiches are very good. Steer clear of their cheese steaks, though.

Wolman: Many freshmen prefer Wolman over Terrace because it has more variety. The Taco Bell Express at Wolman is pretty good, but trust me, you'll get sick of it quickly. The pasta bar is terrible, the pizza varies in quality, the burgers are alright, and the specials are risky. The deli also looks really good, considering they bake their own bread and make sandwiches to order. However, every time I had a sandwich there, it was disappointing. My favorite thing about Wolman last year was the "Taste Tester," which was a daily special that was separate from everything else. Taste Tester specials included gyros (amazing), cheesesteaks, chicken wings, Caesar salad and other snacks. Occasionally, Wolman also has outstanding desserts like peanut butter pie.

Terrace: The best part about Terrace is the pasta bar. Otherwise, there is

not much variety there. Many freshmen quickly tire of Terrace because there, it's either the pasta bar, the special, the salad bar or a burger and fries.

The Depot: Well, you can't really eat here, but Depot food makes for a tasty brunch when you wake up at two in the afternoon with a hangover. Yes, the food is overpriced, and thus, you won't get close to your money's worth when you equiv here.

Levering: Should this even count as on-campus food? Please take my advice and don't waste your money here. That is, unless you're giving a speech about why saran wrap is better than condoms. At Levering, you can't meal equiv, and the food, except for the Pizza Hut Express, is basically the same as Wolman or Terrace.

So now that you know what to eat, you need to know how to eat it. The key is to give yourself variety. For example, say you go to Wolman for lunch and don't eat any of the specials. Hey, I can understand; teriyaki tofu doesn't sound all that appetizing. You then decide to go

The key is to give yourself variety.

back to Wolman for dinner. If you're like me, you don't want to have the same things you had for lunch, and thus, your options are slim. Your mistake was going to Wolman twice in a row and not having specials. Go somewhere else on campus, or if your wallet isn't empty, grab a bite to eat around Charles Village. But remember to equiv at the Depot.

All these minor problems aside, the real problem with the meal plan is the cost. You will soon find that you received no bulk discount when you paid for your meal plan at the beginning of the year. That's right. You're paying the same amount as any Joe Shmoe off the street would pay if he wanted to eat

For me, the cost is only part of the problem. The other part is that I like to cook. I know that I can make a better meal for myself and the people in my apartment for much less than it costs to be on the meal plan.

In conclusion, let me put it to you in as few words as possible. The food at Hopkins is not bad, and if you use the right techniques, you could even be happy with the meal plan. However, the quality you get makes the cost not worth it, no matter how hard you try. That, my friends, is why I'm off the meal plan.



The Terrace Court Cafe salad bar offers an exciting array of, well, salads.

Hey, vegetarians, there's more than just rabbit food

A vegetarian guide to **Hopkins**

By Emily Mayer

You've just arrived at Hopkins, spent a whole day unpacking, and are about to venture into the dining hall for the first time. If you are the "typical" college student, you should have no problem loading up on cheeseburgers, tacos, hot dogs and pepperoni pizza at one of your two delectable all-you-can-eat choices. If you happen to be a vegetarian, on the other hand, you may find yourself wandering aimlessly from station to station making a final decision between overcooked carrots soaked in butter or a relatively tasteless salad. Being vegetarian or vegan at JHU is not easy, and if you are used to having healthy filling choices you may find yourself losing the freshman fifteen instead of gaining it. But from many experienced vegetarians who have felt the pain of the dining hall's choices, here are some tips for how to survive, and maybe even enjoy a meal or two now

Even though they aren't always set out with the rest of the meat choices, both Wolman and Terrace always have Veggie Burgers in the grill area and will make them by request. They're pretty good and very filling, especially if you load them up with toppings from the salad bar.

Though the Terrace Pasta station mostly always offers pasta and rice dishes that have meat or poultry, the cooks are more than willing to make them vegetarian. Also, if you ask them nicely, they will cook your dish in a clean pan that hasn't been touched by any animal products.

A nice option that Wolman offers is the various types of already cooked plain pasta/tortellini that they set out with various sauce choices. Mix one of these with the cooked veggies they offer with the prepared lunch/dinner options, and voila, pasta primavera a la

Although not every vegetarian/vegan is a big fan of tofu, it is a great source of protein and can usually be found in Wolman's salad bar. Though it may not seem appealing uncooked and cold, there is a microwave for student use located near the deserts that makes a big difference.

If you aren't a regular frequenter of the dining halls and find meal equiving a better choice, be sure to check out the prepared sandwiches and salads in Megabytes. Even though The Depot lacks greatly in this department despite many pleas over the years, Megabytes always has vegetarian/vegan options on hand for a lunch or dinner on

For a quick hot meal, Megabytes also offers calzones, veggie or plain pizza and pasta. Also, the quesadillas can be ordered without chicken and are a great snack, or an accompaniment to a salad for lunch or dinner.

Though they get old quickly, Wolman has small and large fruit salads which are good matched with a yogurt and bagel. If they're out of them, grab an apple, banana and an orange and make your own!

If all else fails, buy a box of protein/ meal bars to keep in your room to supplement an incomplete lunch or dinner. When this happens, and I promise you it will, try out Luna, Cliff and Balance Bars. These all taste pretty good and have a good amount of nutritional value as well. Add a piece of fruit and a drink and you'd be amazed at how filling they can be.

Good luck battling the meal plan, and just think, only two years until you'll have to cook everything for yourself. As you can see, either way, you'll have to be creative.

Do you know how to get from the DMC to the AC to CVP after IFP?

A concise dictionary of terms every Hopkins student needs to know

By Jason Gordon

Welcome freshman. You have entered the fun and exciting city of Baltimore. Like any new place, Baltimore and Johns Hopkins have their own interesting customs. We here at the News-Letter want to make the transition into Baltimore less painful. And thus, here is a list of local terminology that you NEED to know.

AC

The Athletic Center. They just added a huge extension to this place. It's all new and modern, so there should be no complaints now. They have basketball and racquetball courts, a climbing wall, a weight room, lots of exercise equipment like treadmills and stair climbers.

AcPro

Academic Probation. Avoid this by not getting below a 2.0 GPA, not taking less than 12 credits a semester and not pledging WaWa. You have to be pretty stupid or drunk to end up on AcPro.

Arts and Crafts

Arts and Sciences. Basically this is what everyone in the engineering school calls the Arts and Sciences people. The classes may be easier and have more girls, but what are they going to do after graduation? Interact with other humans?

The Beach

The grassy hill between the library and N. Charles Street. Students used to have large drinking parties on the Beach, but in recent years that activity has become a no-no. When the weather is nice, you will find chicks in bikinis and frisbee players here.

Beast

Milwaukee's Best. The cheapest beer around — it's a frat party favorite.

Beirut

Although some Beirut dilettantes may tell you that it's the same as beer pong, it most certainly is not. What one does not know and study, one cannot appreciate.

The Block

Go downtown to Baltimore Street to find The Block. Let's just say that if you wanna try out the multi-angle feature of your DVD player, this is the place to go.

Bloomberg

"You bet I did. And I enjoyed it." Alum and New York City mayor Micheal Bloomberg can say this phrase about both sparking a doobie and plastering his name on everything at Hopkins that doesn't move.

Brody

The guy in charge. The prez. The big cheese. The guy whose salary makes SLAC jealous. He lives behind the president's garden, which you will discover come Spring Fair.

BME

Biomedical Engineering. People who major in this are crazy and probably won't have much of a social life. See Phys Found.

Breezeway

The area on the upper quad between Aimes Hall and Kreiger Hall. When people stand here and try to give you stuff, ignore them as if they were that bum on Charles Street.

CVP

Charles Village Pub. A great place to hang out, located on St. Paul between 31st and 32nd street. Beer, food, locals, this place has it all.

Compendium

The guidebook they give out to the freshman that will soon end up keeping the legs of your bed even.

CONDOM

That thing you wear on your schlong. Also, College of Notre Dame of Maryland. Located just north of us on Charles Street, this place is home to many fine-looking females.

The Daily Jolt

A website where a few very disgruntled students troll message boards complaining about how much this school sucks. It's also a great place to go to look up take out food phone numbers.

Death Lane

The one lane of Charles Street that runs south next to the three north-bound lanes. Its only "open" during rush hour, but morons drive down it all daylong. People often forget to look both ways when crossing, hence its name.

DMC

Old School Rap group and The Digital Media Center. Located in the Mattin Center, the DMC has high end computers, scanners, drawing tablets, video editing equipment and all kinds of other electronic goodies. You can borrow some of their equipment including digital video cameras and sign up to use their facilities like their recording studio where you can pretend you're Snoop and mix your next album with all your homies and a phat sack of the chronic.

D-Level

The lowest (and lowliest) level of the library. It's most busy during finals, but has established regulars. Try not to make any noise down here unless you enjoy dirty looks from people who take studying way too seriously.

E-Level

This hangout is not located in the library; it is actually in Levering next to the Great Hall. Back in the day, this used to be a bar where alcohol flowed like water to people of all ages. Like everything else that was once cool here, it was raided and now blows.

Gatehouse

Located on the corner of Art Museum Drive and N. Charles St, the campus legend is that the News-Letter world headquarters was once slave quarters. This legend is false, since it

Glass Pav

The Glass Pavilion is located above Levering Hall on the north end. It's hard to miss; it's the all glass enclosing. Job fairs and social events are often hosted here.

Greenmount

Head east a few blocks and you will find Greenmount. You can't miss it. Look for people selling crack, cheap liquor stores, and lots of sketchy folk. It's walkable during the day, but if you have an insatiable craving for lake trout at midnight, you might want to roll up in a Popemobile or a similarly bullet-proof mode of conveyance.

Continued on Page 13



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/FILE PHOTO
The Beach will be filled with sunbathers and Frisbee players come Spring.

Continued from Page 12 **HAC Lab**

The Homewood Academic Computing Lab is located on the second floor of Kreiger hall. When entering from the upper quad, you have to go down two flights to get there. They have Macs and PCs. Just don't forget your Jcard, printing isn't free.

Hop Cop

Hopkins security personnel. These guys do their best to keep this campus as safe as possible. If you see them riding around in their miniaturized SUVs, give them a wave...they work hard for us.

The Hut

The Alfred A. Hutzler Undergraduate Library, located in Gilman Hall. Just walk in the main entrance and go straight; you'll walk right in. Its open 24/7 but its usually too damn hot in there to do anything but sleep.

IFP

Introduction to Fiction and Poetry. It's how many people get their "W' credits. I wouldn't take this if you don't like being critiqued by egotistical TAs and classes full of cut throats.

International Relations. There are a ton of girls who major in this. Just don't expect to be studying with them...they take their work seriously. If you're a CS major, this means Information Retrieval, but who talks to CS majors anyway?

JCard

That nice little blue card with your picture on it. Carry it with you at all times. It gets you into the Library, the Hut, the HAC Lab and the dining hall. You'll also need it at other random places.

J-CASH

Money that you put on your JCard that can be used at Levering, MegaBYTES, and many off campus spots. You can also pay for laundry and printing with J-CASH. It really does beat carrying cash sometimes.

Jay Store

The most overpriced convenience store ever. I'm not even going to tell you where it is so you don't waste your money there.

JHED/JHEM

Johns Hopkins Enterprise Directory and Enterprise Messaging. One is a tool for stalkers while the other one is used to check your e-mail.

JHUNIX

The school's UNIX machine that used to be the main e-mail server. Now it's just used for file storage and hosting your web pages.

Lacrosse. Apparently our team is

Lower Quad

Also known as the Engineering Quad. You won't find any girls here but your will find many CS majors attempting to avoid daylight.

Master Plan

This should be done by now, but thanks to poor planning and management, the Master Plan lives on. Its goals were to beautify the campus. They've done a really good job; it's just that getting there was so painfully slow.

MegaBYTES

The convenience store in AMRII. They have a grill and a pizza place. You used to be able to get cereal and things like that here but now you have to go the Jay Store for that.

MSEL/MSE



LIZ STEINBERG/FILE PHOTO

For years, the beer garden has been an essential part of Spring Fair.

Milton S. Eisenhower Library. This you can. six story building runs four stories underground. On the top two levels, you will find people pretending to study but really socializing. On the bottom, you will find people who don't know how to socialize.

News-Letter

The only official weekly undergraduate paper of the Johns Hopkins Univer-

Occ. Civ.

Occidental Civilization. They have like four classes with this name. Don't be afraid, it's just history.

Orgo

Organic Chemistry. One bitch of a class. Have fun second semester.

Peabody

The JHU music conservatory in Mount Vernon.

Phys. Found.

Physiological Foundations. A BME torture ritual that occurs during the junior year. It's supposed to be the hardest class on campus, but we wouldn't know; none of us are crazy enough to take it.

A bar right near the Charles where mostly lacrosse types hang out. Apparently they actually card here. Also watch out for brawls in the back hall, which is 'not actually part of the bar.'

Premed

It's what everyone here is, right?

Rape Steps

The stairs just north of the Beach leading up from Charles St. towards the freshman quad. Rumor has it that these steps were designed to fit the stride of a woman so she could outrun a potential rapist.

ResLife

Residential Life office. There's one in AMR II and one in Wolman. They are responsible for ruining your fun in the dorm.

RoFo

Royal Farms. A convenience store located on St. Paul and 33rd. They have great fries and chicken, but good luck getting the staff to care enough to actually sell you some. Avoid this place around 12:30 a.m., or you might get held up. This place probably won't be around past this year so enjoy it while

Rotunda

A shitty mall located on 39th Street. They have Giant, CVS, Radio Shack and a damn good pizza place that apparently delivers now.

Student Activities Commission. They hold monthly meetings where leaders of student groups come to waste time, I mean discuss important busi-

Schnapp Shop

Located on the corner of 30th Street and N. Calvert Street, this liquor store has most drinks you'll need short of kegs. Just wave at the nice lady who runs the place as you enter and you will be all good.

Spring Fair

Every spring, Hopkins hosts a weekendlong festival. There's craft booths, lots of good carnival food, rides, games, a concert and a beer garden. In past years, we've had Eminem and the Roots. Hopefully this year the act will be equally as good.

StuCo

Student Council. They have officers from every class who meet and discuss issues and try to get good shit done. Most people are just doing this for their resume, but once and a while, you get someone who really

Throat

Cut-throat. People who will do anything to get the top grade. This includes, but is not limited to: hiding or taking out important books in the library, cheating, pulling fire alarms before a test and stealing notes.

UniMini

Located on the corner of 33rd and St. Paul across from Rofo (see above), University Mini Mart has nice people, good food and they take credit cards and J-CASH. Just don't expect to get out of there in a hurry.

Upper Quad

They say that girls walk around

WaWa

Alpha Delta Phi fraternity. Their house is located above UniMini (see above), which used to be a WaWa, hence the name. This place is known for its crazy shenanigans.

In B'more, you gotta watch your back

What you need to know about security on and off campus

By Julianna Finelli

Like any urban campus, Hopkins has its share of security concerns. With its location in the city of Baltimore, the campus has the benefits of city-life, such as museums, clubs and restaurants, along with the downsides, such as pollution and crime. When venturing out into the city, you need to be aware of your surroundings. Just because safety was the topic of the first question asked by your mother at orientation, doesn't mean it shouldn't be a concern of your

Homewood campus, patrolled around the clock by Hopkins security, is extremely secure, but it is still an open campus. While on-campus incidents usually involve petty thefts, it is important to exercise general caution at all times. The campus is set in Charles Village, giving it the benefit of a small, generally well-developed immediate vicinity. Within a few blocks of campus, the area is reasonably safe.

Freshman students usually have little need to venture much further than two or three blocks from campus. During late hours, however, it is best to use one of the escort services offered by Hopkins Security. Walking escorts will accompany you on campus or within a couple of blocks, and the escort vans, which operate between 5 p.m. and 3 a.m., wil drive you anywhere within a mile radius. After 3 a.m., officers will escor

If you're not going to use an escorservice, make sure you travel in groups When off-campus muggings are reported, they often involve an individua traveling alone. Officer Dennis Rosemary of Hopkins Security advises students to avoid alleyways, walk close to the street edge of the sidewalk, and to "walk with a purpose." Rosemary also recommends using one of the many oncampus ATMs, especially late at night Lieutenant Thomas Douglas warns students to "trust [their instincts]" wher walking.

"Be aware of your surroundings at al times," said Douglas. "Be cautious of everyone on the streets (or on campus) especially in the early morning hours.'

Douglas also advises students to "use the information published in the Hopkins Security Alerts to [their] ad-

On-campus safety is just as important, and probably more relevant to

While the dorms are generally secure, it is always a good idea to lock your doors whenever you leave - even if it's only for a moment. Never prop open the exterior doors for any reason.

The hassle you may save yoursel

and others can result in criminals entering the dorms," said Rosemary.

Rosemary also advises students to be alert when approaching their dorms. If you observe anything suspicious, inform security, and always use the lighted walkways.

Since the vast majority of crimes reported on-campus are thefts, students should take measures to secure their property. If you own a bike, make sure you register it with Hopkins and use a good lock. For a \$15 deposit, you can register to use a bike room, located in AMR I, Wolman or McCoy.

In additon, Rosemary recommends keeping your dorm key in your pocket — if your bag is lost or stolen, your key will be secure. Although it may seem obvious, never put your PIN number in your wallet (you're Hopkins students - you can memorize four numbers). Keep track of your JCard — since it is just like a credit card, friends can easily "borrow" it to make purchases. Don't leave bags or laptops unattended in the library, even for a short while. It's also a good idea to document the serial and model



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

Being safe is critical on a campus surounded by a major city.

number of your laptop. This makes it easier for authorities to locate and return it to you if it is stolen.

Crime incidences on-campus are

rare. If you use common sense and make the effort to keep your belongings secure and your person safe, you can avoid becoming a crime victim.

HILLEL OF GREATER

Intercampus High Holidays 5763-2002

Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day

Join students, faculty and community Members at Johns Hopkins University, Homewood Campus 3400 North Charles Street

Tickets not required

WHAT'S A JEWISH HOLIDAY WITHOUT FOOD?

A festive Erev Rosh Hashana Meal and Yom Kippur Break Fast will be served. Details TBA

For more information about services meals, transportation, home hospitality and High Holiday programming call Rabbi Rachel Hertzman at 410.653.2265 x12 Rabbi Joseph Menashe at 410 516 0333



Conservative Services, Glass Pavilion—Levering Hall Led by Rabbi Joseph Menashe, Hopkins Hillel Director and Rabbi Marc Wolf Erev Rosh Hashanah Sept. 6 7:15 PM Rosh Hashanah 1st Day Sept. 7 Sept. 8 9:30 AM 9:30 AM

Tashlich (following lunch) Yom Kippur Kol Nidre Sept. 15 7:00 PM Morning Service Sept. 16 Yizkor 1:00 PM Discussion with the Rabbi 3:45 PM Mincha Neilah 6:30 PM

> Reform Services, Bunting-Meyerhoff Interfaith and Community Service Center— 3509 N. Charles Street Led by Rabbi Rachel Hertzman and Adam Dorfman, Soloist

Erev Rosh Hashanah	_	
	Sept. 6	7:15 PM
Rosh Hashanah Day	Sept. 7	9:30 AM
Yom Kippur Kol Nidre Sept. 15	Sept. 15	7:00 PM
Morning Service	Sept. 16 4	9.30 AM
Discussion with the Rabbi (Glass Pav) Yizkor and Mincha		3:45 PM
		5:15 PM
Neilah		6:30 PM

Competition outside of class

Hopkins offers plenty of club and intramural sports, from soccer to dodgeball

By Grace Hong

Most of us at Hopkins participated in sports teams in high school. Now that we are in college, participation in sports teams can seem much more difficult since varsity teams don't allow just anyone to join. What can the average athlete do to partake in team sports? Well, you could try out for a varsity team, but for those who don't want to make such a commitment, there are two alternatives: club teams and intramurals. Either way, you'll be having fun, meeting new people and burning off that weekend alcohol and Taco

Club teams resemble varsity teams, but they generally do not require as much time and commitment. These are teams of various sports that gather a few times a week to practice and (depending on the sport) play against other local schools. For most clubs, there are no tryouts so anyone can join, even those with no prior experi- have a team, with a lot of effort, you can

Club sports are appealing because you can play in a generally relaxed atmosphere and get to know the people on your team, without worrying about championships. You won't have to worry about missing schoolwork because you can control how much or how little you participate in your team. Some clubs are very well organized or have many participants, but some clubs are not very organized or very small. Some do not have coaches, set practice schedules or set games. You may or may not like this informal atmosphere. A good way to learn about the state of the club you are interested in is to talk to its members or just attend practice a

Hopkins offers a wide variety of sports clubs, from lacrosse and ultimate Frisbee, to cheerleading and badminton. For a full list of sports clubs, check out http://www.jhu.edu/ ~recsport/SportClubs/sportclubs.htm. The website does not offer up-to-date contact information, so it may be best to contact the Office of Recreation at 410-516-4419 if you would like to join a club. Otherwise, be sure to check out the SAC fair this Friday, where several sports clubs will be represented. In addition, if there is a sport that does not

make your own club. The women's volleyball club team was created last year by two students. So if you are upset that there is no club team for basketball or swimming, start your

If you think that even club teams require too much time and hassle, you still have the option of participating in intramurals. Intramural teams generally don't have practices. Once you sign up as a team, you will just play against other teams in your league. You can decide among five leagues in general, though not every sport will offer every league. There is a Fraternity league, where various Greek organizations play against each other, a Dorm league, where the teams are formed by people who live in the same building or floor, a Co-ed league, where teams require both males and females, a Women's league and an Open league, where anyone can form

Once you pick the members of your team, you can decide on a captain and sign up for a league. There are specific dates to sign up, which consists of handing in an entry form to the Intramurals Staff. The captain will be given a schedule of games to play against the other teams of your league. You can also keep the same team to play in different sports. The Intramurals Staff will keep track of your team's wins and losses and give out points accordingly. The points will determine the end-of-the-year intramural champions.

Intramurals are an easy way to compete in sports. Since your team may consist of only your friends, you may end up having a better time. There is not much pressure to win and this is just something to do for fun and recreation. Intramurals also have the added fun factor of non-traditional sports, such as dodgeball and innertube water

There are many intramurals offered in the fall and in the spring. Check out http://www.jhu.edu/~recsport/ Intramurals/intramurals.htm for a full listing of the sports offered and for contact information. Remember, you have to sign up with your team before you can play.

Even if you don't join a varsity team at Hopkins, there are still options available for you to play sports for clubs or intramurals. The Athletic Center even offers fitness classes and exercise equipment if competition is not your thing. Through the many athletic programs that Hopkins offers, getting exercise doesn't have to be something vou do on vour own.

When the Beach was sooo cool

By Charles Donefer

It goes without saying that the grass is always greener on the other side of the street. Not only is it greener elsewhere, it was greener on this side in the past. Before we came around, college was, like, sooo much cooler than it is now. People were walking around doing drugs without consequence, protesting various and sundry wars and having sex everywhere. The chicks were all hot. The guys were all hot. Man, if we were only born 30 years ago, college would have been so much more fun.

This sort of thinking has filled up more than a few undergrads with manufactured nostalgia for times they weren't alive to see. The '60s may have had their share of good times, but the alumni of decades past had the same midterms, finals and papers to deal with that we complain about today.

However, not long ago, Hopkins students had a social outlet that we only hear about from wistful recent graduates: The Beach.

Sure, it's nice to hang out on the grassy knoll between the MSE Library and North Charles Street during the day, lying on a beach blanket with a book or tossing around a Frisbee, but not long ago, The Beach was a 24-hour gathering place. If you ask a Hopkins alum from the late '90s, he or she will tell you that when The Beach was active, it would flood with people shortly after fraternity parties and bars closed up, to be joined with frustrated librarydenizens, wandering out into the fresh air for the first time that day. Together, the assembled drunks would pound six-packs of beast and make out in the woods that later became the Mattin

Like the summer, your first kiss and Futurama, the beach joined the long list of good things to come to an end

The beginning of the Beach's death can be traced back to November, 1996, when Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell sent a letter to the student body discussing complaints about rowdiness on The Beach and warning students who use it to "use good judgment and exercise responsibility" over the following months.

Is asking college students to "use good judgment and exercise responsibility" at 3 a.m. even possible? Apparently, considering that by early April of 1997, the administration put out a draft of a beach policy in response to complaints from neighbors and the Baltimore Police Department. The proposal called for banning alcohol possession and consumption on the beach, even among over-21 students, banning open containers of any kind after 9 p.m. and banning groups of five of more students from sitting the beach from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m.

Not surprisingly, students were not happy. At a forum held by Boswell on April 10, 100 students berated the policy, including one, who received a round of applause for saying, "Nothing is going to stop me from getting drunk...in fact, I'm going to leave now and go drink on the beach," according to the News-Letter of April 11. An editorial in that edition called the policy a "fascist edict."

The policy was eventually relaxed, but for over a year, it did very little to stop the beach from being a hub of latenight activity. The News-Letter reported that although The Beach was closed for Orientation in 1997, The Beach played host to over 400 students during the second weekend of the 1997-1998 aca-

Then the hammer came down.

On March 26, 1998, Boswell sent a letter. It started by promising to "preserve The Beach as a safe haven for student gatherings where the law is respected and the opportunity for harm is minimized" and then went on to describe a series of measures designed to make it as inhospitable to partiers as possible. The new rules banned glass bottles on The Beach after dark, permitted security to confiscate alcoholic beverages from anyone, student, alumni or visitor and reserved security's right to order people on The Beach to stop disruptive behavior or leave, and they may ask for identification in order to give names of serious offenders to the Dean of Students or the police.

Since then, with a few exceptions, the beach has been empty at night.

What's the lesson here? Will the administration do what it pleases, no matter how much they ask for "input"? Will students always ruin a good thing by starting fights and otherwise acting like idiots, or are all good things destined to be regulated out of existence?

Wolman and McCoy: Stand Proud

By Grace Hong

So, you've gotten to Hopkins only to realize that you are living in a so-called 'sophomore" dorm. Feeling left out of the whole "freshmen" dorm experience of the AMRs and Buildings A and B? Well, have noworries! Life on the other side of Charles St. is equally fun, if not more. And though Wolman and McCoy traditionally housed sophomores, more and more freshmen are skipping the AMR way of life by residing in these buildings. Chances are, you will have freshmen as roommates, suitemates, or in the very least, floor mates. So get over that whole, missing out on "freshmen" bonding thing, because you can meet a ton of freshmen AND sophomores in Wolman and McCoy.

While the residents of the freshmen quad are fending off rats left and right,, Wolman and McCoy seem like palaces in comparison. Let's talk about basic amenities. These buildings have suitestyle living, with a kitchenette, a bathroom and central air-conditioning. You can make your own meals for when cafeteria food gets repetitive. If those living on the freshmen quad try to cook in their rooms, the fire alarms will go off and their buildings have to be evacuated (this is based on a true story). And, you have a bathroom for just four people to share? Way better than a communal shower, sink, and toilet for a floor full of people, like in the AMRs. And behold the joys of A/C. While the people in the freshmen dorms are sticky from the sometimes hot, humid weather, you can chill out in a room that obeys your every temperature-related command.

Wolman and McCoy also offer a student lounge on each floor, complete with a TV, VCR and basic cable. There's also a pool table, exercise room, ATM (in Wolman) and various study rooms in the buildings, if you know where to look. The RA's of these buildings are usually more relaxed about enforcing rules, but be warned. They periodically patrol the floors for any suspicious behavior, especially on weekends and nights.

This brings me to another point. There is always a security guard on duty in the lobbies of Wolman and McCoy. And, you can only gain access to the elevators, rooms and floors if you have an electronic access card. There are times when you can access any floor and even use a Wolman card in McCoy and vice versa, but during most of the day, only the people who live on a floor can gain access into that floor. You are pretty darn secure.

Those living in Wolman have an additional perk of living in the same building as the dining hall. The dining services often get a bad rap, but from my observation, the catering company definitely does try to reform and get approval from the students. No matter how much you like to complain about cafeteria food, eventually you are going to eat there. And what's better than rolling out of your bed and waltzing into the cafeteria, without having to step outside? You may think that this is no big deal, but when the weather gets really cold, you may come to appreciate living in such close proximity to your food. Many people also agree that the Wolman Station food

and selection is better than what Terrace Court offers. Besides Wolman Station, those living in these dorms can also meal-equiv (substitute a meal from the mealplan for money) at the Depot, where you can buy salads, bagels, Starbucks coffee, etc. Plus, these dorms are a short distance from University Minimart (Uni Mini, famous for their yummy subs) and Royal Farms (RoFo, famous for getting robbed all the time), two popular convenience stores. Not to mention, the residents here are closer to most of the frat houses, restaurants and pubs.

By now, perhaps you are thinking, what's the catch? As in anything, life in Wolman or McCoy has negative aspects, though I don't want to dwell upon them too much. The only big thing is probably the distance from

these residence halls to the lecture halls. You probably need to plan extra time, maybe about 10 minutes, to get to class. If you are going to the Athletic Center (the AC), you've already done half of your workout just getting there. If you are going to Bloomberg, bring an inhaler and a water bottle. Walking up the path around the beach is annoying too, especially with all those ankle-killing cobblestones. Then again, this may be a blessing in disguise. With all that extra walking, you may be able to avoid that ugly phrase, "Freshman 15."

In a month from now, you will come to see what you like and dislike about living in Wolman and McCoy. The important thing is, no matter how bad it seems, the people living in the "freshmen" dorms have it worse. It's good to remember that.



NEWS-LETTER STAFF/FILE PHOTO These towering buildings traditionally house JHU's sophomore class.

Keepin'it real in the Homewood

By Michelle Fiks

It's entirely plausible for Hopkins students, especially the inaugural freshman class, to feel dubious about the merits of exploring the inner workings of Baltimore. Our charm city is not exactly known as the most inviting of all college towns. After all, the new HBO drama, The Wire, which depicts the drug trade in America, isn't set in Baltimore for nothing.

But that does not mean that students from the Hopkins community should despair. Indeed, there are times when Homewood campus positively brims with exciting events to attend, such as the annual SpringFair, held towards the end of spring semester every year. The three-day spectacle boasts myriad vendors bearing colorful crafts, exotic foods and other intriguing items. Make sure to try the berry smoothies that they offer! Students who are over 21 can let loose in the Beer Garden; its name says it all. Hopkins' very own carnival takes

place on Garland Field, so you can rest assured that HopCops and the local Baltimore police force will make sure that your safety is guaranteed.

Dorm living is the prime spot for scoping out interesting things to do without wandering off Homewood. All of the ingredients that make for an interesting afternoon (or evening) are right at your fingertips. Those fortunate enough to live in the AMR's have the added amenity of being able to roam over to any one of their several hundred neighbors, without having to bother with those pesky access cards (as is the case that those wishing to visit the residents of Wolman, McCoy, or Buildings A/B encounter).

During Orientation week last year, my entire house and our neighboring house played Truth-or-Dare Jenga. We played for hours, sprawled out on the third floor of our house. A silly game reserved for children, you think? Actually, that game probably produced some of the most interesting scenarios of the year and provided for hours of laughter and ample opportunities for inside jokes. Just don't forget the camera!

Go ahead and grab some friends from your house and from neighboring houses and go on the prowl. Last year, my house actually played midnight Frisbee on D- Level! If catching flying objects in a forbidden environment isn't your thing, rest assured that there are other alternatives. The auditoriums in Shriver Hall and Bloomberg (as well as Gilman, on occasion) frequently show both new and classic movies, and always at a much better price than you would pay at either Towson Commons or The Charles.

When the weather gets nice, half of the undergrads at Hopkins head over to the beach to enjoy the "lawn." Even upperclassmen who live way off campus can be seen meandering over to the beach, Frisbees in one hand, books clutched in the other. If it gets too crowded, try staging a coup d'état of the lawn that faces AMR II. Bring your

own beach towels and textbooks, and prepare to enjoy the fresh air.

Curing the Terrace-inspired anxiety is relatively easy, as well. After traveling back home and basking in that delicious home-cooked fare that only Mom can whip up, plan to take a small portion back to the dorms. Arrange with several friends to do the same. When you all come back from Thanksgiving break, partake in a potluck-style activity. This way, you can assuage the sting of coming back to schoolwork and studying. What's unique about this solution is that it enables you to engage in a fun, cultural activity (tasting different ethnic dishes), without stepping much more than a few steps off of campus.

Integral to enjoying the college experience is maximizing the resources you have at hand. It doesn't matter that Baltimore is sketchier than many other American cities. There are myriad methods to having fun on campus. The key is to be creative and maintain a positive attitude!

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NEWS-LETTER

VOLUME CVII, ISSUE 1

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SEPTEMBER 5, 2002



JULIANNA FINELLI/NEWS-LETTER

During the Freshman Day of Service, freshmen help prepare soil for planting at the Baltimore Zoo.

O-staff welcomes freshmen

BY JESSICA VALDEZ

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The 2002 Orientation has welcomed the Class of 2006 into the Johns Hopkins family with a series of social and academic events, running from Friday, Aug. 30 to Friday, Sept. 6.

Organized by executive cochairs Nikhil Joshi and Casey Weinberg, the 2002 Orientation centers around the theme of the mobster innuendo, "Welcome to the Family." Events were tailored around the theme, said Weinberg, and Orientation staff members wore shirts sporting mobster blue jays on the back.

Huge turnouts flooded most of the social events, according to Weinberg. More than 1500 students, including upperclassmen, partied Monday at Have a Nice Day Cafe, which was reserved solely for Hopkins students.

About 325 volunteers helped the orientation staff with the events, 120 serving as student advisors and the rest involved in move-in said move-in chair J. R. Williams.

They also had help from "a number of people from offices

around campus," said Williams.

Freshman move-in took place Friday and Saturday before the influx of rainfall. Volunteers moved luggage to the rooms and lead arriving freshmen to Terrace Court Cafe to receive information and greetings.

The parents "were really appreciative," said senior Shelly Gopaul, parents programming chair. "This one woman said she felt safe leaving her firstborn here."

Gopaul oversaw the programs provided for parents, which in-CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

JHU water usage restricted by state

BY JULIANNA FINELLI

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins University must reduce water usage by 10 percent under restrictions imposed by Gov. Parris Glendening on August 27, 2002.

The Level Two mandatory water use restrictions were announced for counties in the central and eastern regions of Maryland after groundwater and rainfall totals hit record lows.

The restrictions mandate that in order to comply with the drought restrictions, Hopkins will have to refrain from irrigating grass, trees or shrubs that have been in the ground for over 21 days. In other words, if 21 days have passed since sod or plants have been sowed, they may no longer be watered. This will cut back usual usage by five percent.

The other five percent of the reduction will be accomplished by increasing the level of impurities in the cooling towers of campus chiller plants, where water for air-conditioning is cooled. Since fresh water is required to reduce these impurities, allowing them to increase will result in less water being purged out of the towers. This method is safe for individuals, but should only be used temporarily, as impurities could cause deposits and corrosion in

CONTINUED ON PAGE A3

Silk Road Express opens in Mattin

BY JESSICA VALDEZ

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Silk Road Express, which was originally located in the Blackstone Apartments, will move into the Mattin Center on Monday, Sept. 9 at 10:30 a.m.

It will replace the cafe serviced by Straight From Seattle, the company that also manages

Café Q and the Gilman Coffee cart.

"Straight from Seattle cancelled its contract," said Jean DeVito, dining services director. "We have too many cafes on campus. They just weren't doing well."

When the Silk Road Café's lease at the Blackstone Apartments ended and the facility was forced out of its 6-year-old location, owner Xiaomei Xue had no place to operate.

"We lost the lease because they wanted something else to be there, something small that doesn't involve cooking," said Xue.

So Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell suggested the University bring the business to the Mattin Center, and the University worked out an agreement with Xue, said H. Carol Mohr, senior director of Housing and Dining Services.

Part of Boswell's vision for the Mattin Center is to provide a viable food facility, said Mohr.

The new facility in the Mattin Center will provide different food options than both the original Silk Road Cafe and the Cyber Café serviced by Straight from Seattle.

Whereas "the Cyber Café menu CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

GX2 construction nears completion

BY JULIANNA FINELLI

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After four months of construction in the area between the new Hodson Hall, Garland Hall, Latrobe and Gilman, the second phase of the Homewood campus plan, or Great Excavations 2 (GX2), is expected to be completed by mid-September.

The original GX2 plan anticipated a completion date of mid-October. Due to unexpectedly scarce rainfall this summer, de-

lays were minimal and construction proceeded ahead-of-schedule. In contrast, the first GX project, which renovated areas between the North Gate near the Athletic Center to the Beach and Lower Quad, faced major rain delays in 2000 and 2001.

The GX2 project extends the design and philosophy of the first GX, replacing asphalt with bricks and marble accents and adding extensive landscaping. According to the GX2 Web site, the phi-

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

Construction starts outside of Garland Hall as part of the second phase of the Great Excavations project, which began in late May.

Board of Trustees selects new meml

BY JESSICA VALDEZ

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Seven new members have been inducted into The Johns Hopkins University Board of Trustees, effective July 2002.

The new members include Roderich Carr, Charles Clarvit, Loren Douglass, Lisa Egbuonu-Davis, David Koch, Rajendra Singh and Young Trustee Stephen Goutman.

The trustees will serve six-year terms, with the exception of the Young Trustee's four-year term, and each will have one vote in the decisions of the University's primary governing body.

Nominees for the trusteeships were reviewed this summer by the Board's nominating committee, said Jerome Schnydman, secretary of the Board of Trustees and executive assistant to the University President William R. Brody. He said the committee concentrated on three criteria: influence, University ties and key skills.

He added that each year, two of the selected trustees must be Council.

"The [Alumni Council] nominates up to 10 people and sends those names to the trustee nominating committee," Schnydman. "Then, the committee selects two.

The committee also annually selects a Young Trustee, who is a graduating senior at the time the application is submitted.

Up to eight seniors applied for the position last year, but the committee narrowed down its selection to a former Hopkins undergraduate heavily active in the student government: Stephen Goutman. He will serve a fouryear term as he pursues a doctorate at University of Chicago Medical School.

The remaining trustees qualify as "regular" trustees, who can be nominated by anyone, according to Schnydman. The number of regular trustees accepted for the posts depends on the amount of retiring trustees.

Schnydman said the committee seeks diversity in its make-up,

alumninominated by the Alumni which is reflected in the wide range of new trustees.

A graduate from the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, Charles Clarvit has been a member of the Quellos Investment Committee since 1998. Prior to his work with Quellos, Clarvit served as the managing director of CIVC Oppenheimer and Co., where he oversaw the development of alternative investment strategies and private equity advisory services.

Also in business, Loren Douglass has two degrees from Johns Hopkins: a B.A. from the School of Engineering and an M.A. from the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. He serves as president of the GE Global Asset Protection Services, a subsidiary of General Electric's Employers Reinsurance Corporation. He was also Global Leader of General Electric's award-winning web-based Collaboration Initiative.

Lisa Egbuonu-Davis earned her M.D. from Johns Hopkins in 1983 and currently serves as vice comes Research and Medical services of Pfizer Pharmaceuticals

Although not personally affiliated with Johns Hopkins, David H. Koch serves as an executive vice president and a board member of Koch Industries, Inc., which was named the second largest private company in the U.S. by Forbes magazine. He is also widely recognized as a philanthropist and has donated nearly \$100 million to different charitable endeavors, primarily for the purposes of furthering cancer research, enhancing medical centers and supporting educational institutions.

Dr. Rajendra Sing is the chairman, chief executive officer and principal owner of Telcom Ventures, which is a private investment firm that specializes in telecommunications.

Roderich M. Carr serves as the director of Institutional Client Service at Citigroup Alternative Investments.

Schnydman said the nominating committee was satisfied with its selections.

"We were looking for a diverse board and we're working to achieve that," he said.

Goutman named young trustee

BY JESSICA VALDEZ

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Former class president Stephen Goutman has been named to The Johns Hopkins University Board of Trustees as Young Trustee for the Class of 2002.

One Young Trustee is selected from each graduating class to serve a four-year term with the University's primary governing

"Each year of his service, Goutman will attend the Board's four meetings and will be treated as a regular trustee with one vote per issue," said Jerome D. Schnydman, secretary of the Board of Trustees and executive assistant to University President William R. Brody.

The only aspect that differentiates him from regular trustees is his shorter term of service: four years as opposed to the traditional six. Goutman cannot renew his membership.

Pitted against eight other applicants, Goutman underwent a rigorous application process for the position, which began with the spring election.

"Seniors have to get a certain number of names on their nomination form and they are then put on the ballot," said Schnydman.

The spring student elections then narrowed down the number of contenders to five.

"The top five vote getters are the ones who are presented to the nominating committee of the Board of Trustees," Schnydman.

Goutman submitted a pagelong biography and underwent an interview process as part of the



FILE PHOTO

Stephen Goutman.

next step.

He said he remembered very little of the interview, not even the people who interviewed him.

I was nervous, quite nervous at the interview," he said. All he recalled was "important people drilling me with questions.

At the interview, he detailed his ambitions for the University, addressing communications and the need for a greater emphasis on the humanities.

"Communications is pretty key between the many different campuses and even Homewood," he said. "Maybe I can suggest some new ways to facilitate communication between the different departments."

He said that he wants a greater concentration on the humanities and the arts program to "bring a different student to Hopkins" and change the general conception of Hopkins as a bustling medical center to one that also exemplifies the best of the humanities.

He further discussed implementation of an honor code and academic ethics.

While he was not present for their interviews, he felt the other candidates for Young Trustee were highly qualified.

"Everyone had an equal shot we all had our unique experiences at Hopkins," he said. "But I demonstrated that I thought this through and I had some ideas I wanted to accomplish at Hopkins."

Goutman was selected by the nominating committee and will now serve a four-year term, effective July 2002.

He said he anticipates working with a diverse Board of Trustees.

"There's a lot of successful people with the Board of Trustees and I can learn from them," he said.

Goutman will be attending the University of Chicago Medical School in less than three weeks. Although entering a new life, he views the position as a way to remain in touch with his memories of Hopkins.

Young Trustee is a position that I get to give back to an institution that I love," he said. "There's no question that I love Hopkins."

HOPKINS THE JOHNS

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINSUNIVERVERSITY

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Emily Nalven

MSE Symposium discloses line-up

The 2002 Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium, a lecture series organized by undergraduates since 1968, will address the theme: "Changing Times: Who Are We? An Introspective Look at American Identity in the 21st Century.

The symposium will host both well-known speakers and films related to American identity. All speaking events are at 8 p.m. in Shriver Hall unless otherwise noted.

- IFC VIGIL, Sept. 11
- (Coordinated by the Interfaith Center)
- •LINDA CHAVEZ, Sept. 17
- "The Melting Pot: Cultural Assimilation in Modern America"
- EDWARD JAMES OLMOS, Sept. 27
- "Americanos: Latino Life in the United States"
- DAVID BROCK, Oct. 10
- "Defining the Times: The Power of the News Media"
- RUSSELL SIMMONS, Oct. 22
- "The Beat Goes On: The Influence of the Hip-Hop Revolution on American Identity
- •NADINE STROSSEN and CHRISTOPHER WHITCOMB, debate, Nov. 7
- "Big Brother: The Effect of Government Policies on Civil Liber-
- DR. ARUN GANDHI, Nov. 12
- "Race Relations: Peace by Peace'
- DR. FRANCIS COLLINS and DR. RUTH FADEN, panel discussion, Nov. 25
- "On the Edge: Evolving Biotechnology, A Question of Ethics"
 CHRIS MATTHEWS, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 8
- "Crossing Borders: Looking Outward to a Connected World"

- Americanos: Latino Life in the United States
- 6:30 p.m. Sept. 27, Shriver Hall
- The Insider
- 8 p.m. Oct. 4, Bloomberg Auditorium
- Enemy of the State
- 8 p.m., Nov. 1, Bloomberg Auditorium
- 8 p.m., Nov. 8, Bloomberg Auditorium
- Gattaca
- 8 p.m., Nov. 22, Bloomberg Auditorium
- Thirteen Days
- 8 p.m., Dec. 6, Bloomberg Auditorium

Hopkins forced to reduce water usage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 the system.

Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs Dennis O'Shea does not expect these measures to affect students on a personal, every-day level and no restrictions will be placed on student water use. On Tuesday, Sep. 3, however, Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell sent an e-mail to all students, informing them of the drought situation and suggesting simple measures students could take to conserve water.

The irrigation restrictions come at a time when Hopkins is making major landscaping changes. Over the past two years, the Homewood campus plan

implementation has involved the planting of more than \$1 million of trees and shrubs. Concerns over the possible loss of an expensive investment have already called for more advanced irrigation methods.

computer-controlled weather system is in place, which monitors environmental factors and then irrigates only when and where it is needed. According to Director of Plant Operations and Maintenance David Ashwood, this technology, while very helpful in irrigating efficiently under normal conditions, does little good when water use is restricted. So far, five mature oak and beech trees have been lost.

IHU hires former Enron exec.

BY JULIANNA FINELLI

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins University has hired a former vice president of Enron Corporation to fill its newly created position of vice president of government, community and public affairs.

Linda L. Robertson, 47, began work last Tuesday. The new position was created to bolster Hopkins' relationship with its external audiences, which include the surrounding communities, state and federal governments and broader audiences both nationwide and global. It will bring together in one organization all of the people throughout Hopkins involved in government and community affairs, said Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs Dennis

There will [now] be a highlevel person... whose job it is to think strategically about the university's relationship with its external audience," said O'Shea.

In November 2000, Robertson was hired by Enron Corporation as vice president and general manager of federal government affairs. After the scandal in which Enron executives were accused of lying about profits and debts, Robertson was asked to close the Washington office in February 2002. She is not believed to have played any role in the scandal and was not subpoenaed to testify during the investigation.

Prior to joining Enron, Robertson spent nearly eight years as a senior official at the U.S. Treasury Department, serving as assistant treasury secretary for legislative affairs and public liaison in the Clinton administration. She also worked for the House Ways and Means Committee and as a lobbyist specializing in finance, tax, corporate, energy and technology issues.

President William R. Brody has expressed hope that the new position would aid efforts to strengthen ties between the University and the surrounding neighborhood.

President Brody feels strongly that the University's success depends on the success of the community around it, and the community's success depends on [that of] the University," said

Brody also expressed confidence in the experience and credentials of Robertson, who has been working for the law firm of Dickstein, Shapiro, Morin & Oshinsky, based in Washington, D.C., since leaving Enron.

"She proved herself to be extremely able at managing a complex function through several administrative leaders and came with outstanding recommendations," said Brody.

While serving for the Treasury Department, Robertson earned both the Alexander Hamilton Award, the department's highest honor, and the Ida B. Well-Barnett Achievement Award.

Undergrads receive diplomas

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

On Thursday, May 23, undergraduates and their families gathered to celebrate Johns Hopkins' 126th commencement. Both the undergraduate diploma ceremony and the University-wide degree-conferring event that preceded it took place on Garland

The clear-span tent pitched on Garland Field held 6,000 guests, graduates, faculty and administrators during the undergraduate ceremony, which took place at 1:45 p.m. As each undergraduate was given only four tickets for tent-seating additional guests were seated in Garland Hall, where a live broadcast was displayed on a closed-circuit televi-

The event lasted about two hours, with an address by NBC Nightly News anchor and managing editor Tom Brokaw. Brokaw was also presented with an honorary degree, as was baseball legend Cal Ripken, Jr.

Students from the Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and the G.W.C. Whiting School of Engineering processed to the stage, where they shook hands with President William R. Brody and the deans of their respective schools. Students obtained their diplomas afterward from designated buildings on the Shriver Quadrangle.

Brokaw's speech addressed the new world atmosphere of terrorism, in which "personal and naprimary concern." He compared this year's graduates with the Class of 1942, which was also forced to "find [their] way through the perilous waters in which [they] had no previous experience.

He also spoke of the patriotism and political unity that arose from the struggle against terrorism and urged the graduates to go even further to eradicate terrorism and its causes.

A primary challenge of your generation is to bank the fires of hostility now burning out of control, to neutralize the hatred, to expedite not just global competition economically and politically, but also global understanding," Brokaw said.

"It is a hard, complex task, but it is also exciting because it is an unparalleled opportunity to define your time and leave a lasting

As he closed his speech, Brokaw reminded the graduates to appreciate and learn from the legacy left by their grandparents, on whom he bestowed the phrase "the greatest generation."

The University-wide degreeconferring ceremony, which was held at 9:15 a.m., lasted approximately three hours. Brody addressed the graduates, reminding them to "focus on fulfillment, not fame.

Even if your heart yearns for fame, set your mind to discover where it can find innermost satisfaction," said Brody, "and steer a course in that direction."

This was the first year in which a live broadcast of the ceremony was featured

Other minor changes distinguished the event from last year's commencement, according to Director of Special Events Deborah Pankey-Mebane.

"Among the minor changes for 2002 were the assistance of the newly-created Disability Services Coordinator position to enhance the accommodation for those with special needs," said Pankey-Mebane, "and a revised seating plan in the clear-span tent that allowed guests to be closer to the stage."

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StuCo pres. imparts plans

RY FIINA I HEF

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Student Council President (StuCo) Manish Gala announced the council's goals for the upcoming school year in the areas of Homewood student affairs, academic affairs and social programming.

By organizing StuCo in a more efficient manner, Gala hopes to enforce more plans and increase interaction among the various committees, fellow members and general student body.

"One of the biggest pushes in social programming is the Hopkins Entertainment Pass," Gala said. "By collecting funds beforehand, the council will have more time to plan for events, providing more opportunities and better events for the students."

In addition, the entertainment pass will "provide frequent, better-quality social events on campus," according to Gala, such as more club nights, free concerts, renowned speakers and entertainment acts — all without burning a hole in the average student's budget.

"When students purchase the pass, they will receive a free ticket to upcoming events such as Rusted Root and Ben Folds," Gala said. "These social opportunities will enable students having different interests to meet and have fun, a contrast from school activities."

By raising the issue with the

Office of Academic Affairs, professors and departments, Gala also hopes to increase awareness in exam recycling by promoting an open system where past exams will be put on the Web.

"Since exam scores may sometimes not be connected to how much studying the student has

This year will be one of the best Student Council years ever.

-NOEL DE SANTOS

done, but rather, if he had the proper materials, the council will try to correct these imbalances," Galasaid. "[However], exams will have no attached answers and will be restricted to the Hopkins community."

Another goal of StuCo is to develop the arts program, in which students will receive an arts certificate when they have completed a certain level of art courses.

"[The arts certificate] is tangible and a form of recognition that will encourage the student to achieve in the arts," Gala said.

Moreover, council will continue to push the student/faculty meal

program, where faculty will be reimbursed after taking three students out to dinner per week. With the support of Dean of Students Susan Boswell, the goal is to enhance interaction between professors and students.

Since Garland Field will be turned into a parking lot, Gala hopes to make Eastern Field available to student groups for their outdoor activities and meetings. He plans to offer limited meal equiv in Levering Hall and advocate two committees: an Internet/IT committee and a diversity committee.

"Members in the Internet/IT committee will maintain the Web site about Student Council's events and try to resolve the issues with ResNet," Gala said. "I also want to see the diversity committee take off and have more minority groups speak their interests on council."

To increase interest and membership in StuCo, Gala would like to implement a mentoring program, in which prospective StuCo members will shadow an experienced StuCo member, much like a training program.

Even though StuCo has planned many events for the up-coming school year, Galabelieves that a lot more will be accomplished due to increased starting finances and members' enthusiasm and motivation.

"Our goals are more realistic. We want to fix the 'nothing to do on campus' complaint," Gala said.

StuĈo Vice-President of Institutional Relations Noel De Santos is also optimistic about the upcoming school year.

"This year will be one of the best Student Council years ever. We did so much preparation over the summer, so we can't help but succeed," De Santos said. "Manish's leadership has been the biggest part of that."

Subway finally opens on St. Paul



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins students can now sample Subway's variety of breads.

BY MICHELLE FIKS

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

A new Subway opened on the corner of St. Paul and 33rd Street on July 26.

Jerry Smith, who owns the St. Paul branch, said the business has been steady since the branch opened. He is encouraged by sales thus far, and he feels confident that they will increase.

"As the school year starts up again, business will probably pick up," said Smith.

He estimated that Hopkins students account for approximately 25 to 40 percent of business, and Subway began accepting J-CASH on August 30.

Customers seem very satisfied with the new restaurant. Sophomore Trevor Bradshaw had only praise for the restaurant.

"It's better than fast food," said Bradshaw. "It tastes better and is better for you."

Smith said that Subway has become popular in the community because it is low in fat. Students can "go to sleep, even if they eat it late at night," he said.

With the academic year ap-

proaching, Smith believes that Subway will expand its hours until 3 a.m. three to four times a week. The other nights it will close at its regular time, which is midnight.

Smith feels that Subway's system, in which sandwiches are made in an assembly-line fashion, ensures efficiency and minimizes customer-wait time.

Among the most popular of the sandwiches on the menu are the sweet onion chicken teriyaki and the Southwest turkey and bacon, according to Smith. He also stated that the wheat bread and honey oat are the most popular choices of bread. Thus far, the feedback that Smith has gotten from customers and the community has only been good.

"[Customers like] being able to see the bread baked in front of them," said Smith. "They can tell that the vegetables are fresh and cut daily."

Debby Altomonte, who works in the neighborhood, loves the new Subway

"It's quick and it tastes good," she said. "I can sit here and relax while I eat in-between meetings."

Orientation staffers welcome freshmen

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 cluded a summary of Hopkins history and a drug and alcohol session, among other events.

Sunday night, freshmen gambled at Casino night for raffle tickets to win donated prizes, including a palm pilot, a mountain bike and two tickets to a Ravens game. Resident advisors helped to man the tables.

Freshman Simon Zhang from New Jersey said he enjoyed Casino Night.

About the Orientation activities, he said, "They're corny, but they're still fun."

Tony Chang of Alabamba agreed and said Play Fair on Sunday was "a good place to meet people without feeling stupid because everyone is feeling stupid."

Another event added to Orientation this year was Bootleg Bash in the Rec Center, where carnival-like activities were available, such as a moon bounce, said Weinberg.

Freshmen were also divided into 40 student-advising groups with three student advisors to each group of students.

All student advisors (SAs) had to move in a week early for training, said Weinberg.

"We had a whole week of training," she said. "We tried to make it more interactive than in the past. We did a lot of role playing."

But SAs seemed to find the thorough training process unnecessary.

"The training was more extensive than what was needed," said sophomore and SA Christine Tung. "We learned a lot of things that weren't necessary."

She added that most questions posed by the freshmen concerned academics although the SAs had been encouraged to focus the discussion on social life.

Other events Orientation will include are the student job fair and the Student Activities Commission fair on the freshman quad Friday.

GX2 project beautifies campus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 losophy of the Homewood campus plan is to "make the core areas of Homewood safer, more pedestrian-friendly and much more attractive... In general, the idea is to make Homewood more like a campus and less like a freeway."

According to Director of Planning and Project Development Stephen Campbell, a key consideration in the GX2 project was linking the new Hodson Hall to the main campus and providing "pedestrian-linkage" to the future "Garland Quad," which is to be the site for future building expansion.

Some changes over the summer months include a new retaining wall surrounding Garland, a new entrance to Levering and a new handicapped ramp on Latrobe. The new brick pedestrian walkways echo those of the Upper and Lower Quads, and the asphalt drive between Latrobe and Levering has been removed.

In addition to the surface work of tearing out asphalt, laying bricks and planting trees and shrubs, underground installation of utilities, such as storm water management systems and an electric conduit for streetlights, was extensive.

Closures and detours were commonplace throughout the summer. Both pedestrian traffic and vehicle traffic were constantly diverted, requiring major changes in shipping and receiving. According to Director of Purchasing Paul Beyer, the changes have gone smoothly. An offsite mail center was opened on 31st Street and Remington Avenue, and packages received there are brought to campus twice a day.

Due to the current drought restrictions in the area, some of the planting will be postponed until spring 2003.

Sorority obtains charter Offices relocate

BY JESSICA VALDEZ

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Sigma Omicron Pi, an Asianinterest sorority with an emphasis on philanthropy, chartered a new chapter of about 15 girls at Johns Hopkins on August 25.

The sorority plans to be heavily involved in the community and will concentrate on four objectives to improve campus and community life: unity, friendship, leadership and service, said Annie Hsu, the social and external chair of the Hopkins chapter.

The sisters will not begin rushing freshmen until the spring, but members urge freshmen to seriously consider their sorority since it offers a community awareness that they say other sororities often seem to lack.

We will participate in national philanthropy, but we're really involved in helping the community too," said Laura Shin, president of the Hopkins chap-

It took nearly a year of planning, researching and finally pledging before the girls could call themselves Sigma Omicron Pisis-

In Dec. 2001, 25 girls assembled and formed a group to find and initiate a new sorority at Johns Hopkins, said Hsu.

She said they visited various sororities and campuses, including Penn State University, and participated in sisterhood activities to find a sorority that exemplified their ideals.

'We decided that Sigma Omicron Pi was the best sorority for us because the sisters were very down-to-earth and really active on campus," said Hsu.

Calling the application process "rigorous," Hsu said first they put together a packet about the University and their lives as students. They filmed a short campus video, which also detailed the personalities of each

They had to raise the \$2,000 application fee through intense fund-raising.

Once the sorority's national board approved the packet, the group was officially recognized as an interest group, said Hsu.

In May, they attended the InterChapter Council Convention of Sigma Omicron Pi in San Jose, Calif. where they competed against two other universities for national recognition.

Of the three schools represented, the interest groups of Johns Hopkins and University of California San Diego were selected to move on to the third step: pledging.

Because of their geographic



COURTESY OF ANNIE HSU

From left, Sunny Kim, Anna Lin, Kim Clark, Janice Hong, SoChing Chen, Jenny Kong, Laura Shin, Annie Hsu, Barbara Lin, Chun Ye and Hana Chang pose at the sorority's national convention.

distance from most of the sorority's chapters on the West Coast, Shin said the sorority heightened the difficulty of the process for them.

They wanted to make sure we were strong enough to hold a chapter on our own," said Shin. "They wanted to make sure that we were unified and had a strong sense of sisterhood, so the process partly was a little more rig-

Hsu said the rushing activities could not be disclosed since they were confidential.

Then, on August 25, the Hopkins women were officially recognized as a new chapter of Sigma Omicron Pi.

That was the best moment of my life," said Hsu. "And I really hope we make a good contribution on campus.'

Hsu said the sorority plans to conduct philanthropy events with other sororities and organizations on campus.

They will regularly go to soup kitchens, and they plan to volunteer in the spring Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C.

And while they are an Asianbased sorority, they say that they welcome sisters from all backgrounds to "diversify" the makeup of their membership and activities.

to Levering Hall

BY MICHELLE FIKS

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Office of Student Life and the Orientation Office moved from the basement in Shriver Hall to Levering Hall on Friday, July 19 in order to centralize student services, said Associate Dean of Students Dorothy Sheppard.

The move was structured in such a way as to ensure that work stoppage by Hopkins staff would be minimized, said Dean Susan Boswell, who heads the Office of Student Life.

The offices moved on Friday, July 19 and reopened the following Monday," said Sheppard. "No office suspended work for longer than a few hours."

Boswell is responsible for such activities and areas as residential life, ROTC, the Mattin Center, student conduct, Student Development and Programming, the Chaplain, both the counseling and health centers and the International Student and Scholar Ser-

The Orientation Office is in charge of helping to acclimate new students to the Johns Hopkins community and to college life in general. It is also under Boswell's supervision and is currently headed by Casey Weinberg and Nikhil Joshi.

Boswell's office was formerly located in Shriver Hall Suite 6. It is now located in Levering 102, in close proximity to the Glass Pavilion. The Orientation Office is now located on the ground level of Levering.

Now occupying the basement of Shriver is the security office, which is headed by Ronald Mullen. Shriver is also now home to a portion of the human resources division.

The impetus behind the switch to Levering was to accommodate the needs of students.

According to Boswell, "This centralizes the student services office, so that it puts the people that students need to see in one

Garland Hall was originally another possibility for relocating the offices. However, because both the Office of Student Life and the Orientation office need to be in close proximity, Garland Hall was discounted as an option because there was not sufficient room to fit in both offices.

According to Boswell, although the new Office of Student Life has a slightly smaller waiting area than its previous one, this move brought her back to the office she first occupied at Johns Hopkins 14 years ago. She also stated that the new location puts the offices at the "heart of the

This is the first time that this office is in an office suite by itself," said Boswell. "Prior to moving to Levering, we shared space with the J-card office and the Orientation Office.'

Although the locations of the offices have changed, none of the services they provide to students and to the Hopkins community will be altered. All contact information, such as phone and fax numbers, will remain the same.

"Staff are supportive of the move and are just trying to get settled," said Sheppard.

Silk Road Express replaces Cyber Café

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 consisted mainly of specialty coffee and drinks," said Mohr. "The Silk Road Express offers more Asian and Middle Eastern fare."

Xue said the menu will be much more limited than at her previous location since the Mattin Center is not fully equipped with a kitchen, but she said it will include soups, salads, dumplings and rice platters, among other dishes.

With the Express' wide range of vegetarian platters, DeVito predicts the facility may become a popular hangout for vegetar-

Xue also said she is adding a new drink popular in Asian society: bubble milk tea.

"There is no grill available in

the Mattin Center, so they will not be offering grilled menu items," said Mohr.

DeVito said the café's movement might bring the community to campus, but both Mohr and Xao expressed doubts of this development.

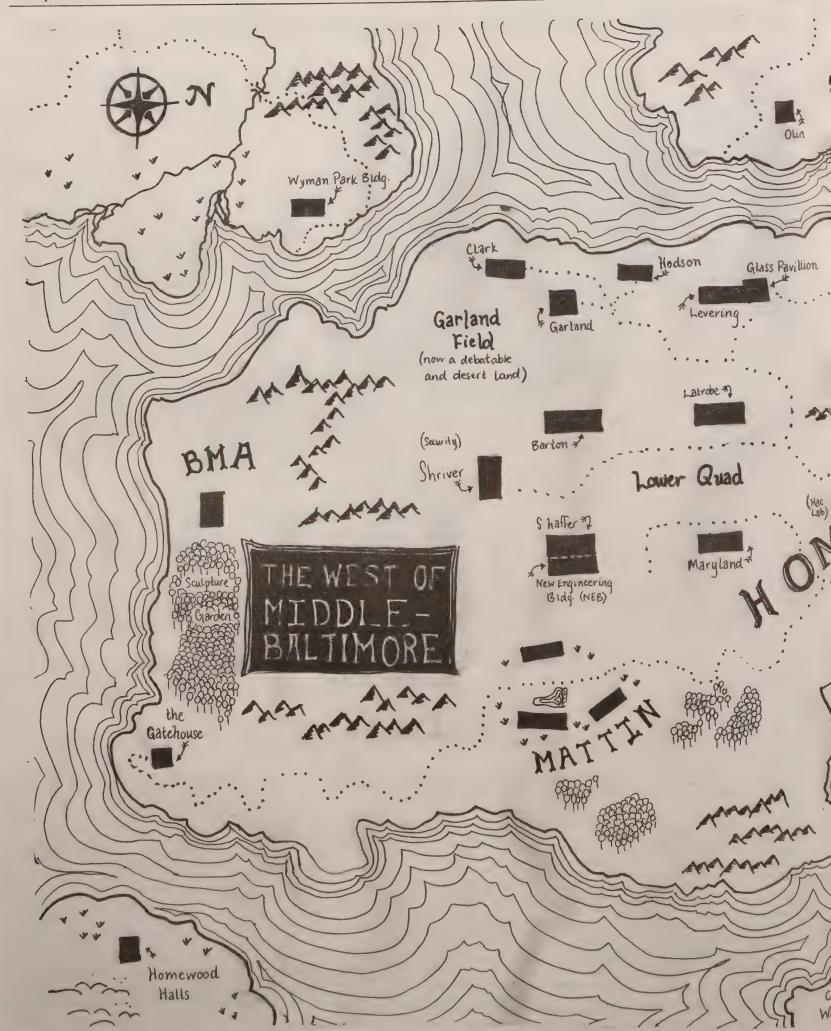
The owner of the café is focusing her efforts on the campus community," said Mohr. "With a lack of visibility from the street, she is not anticipating significant community business.

Xao pointed out that, even on Charles Street, most of her customers were Hopkins students or

"The major customer base is going to be Hopkins-related," she



The Mattin Center lobby, occupied by Hopkins Dining Services during the summer, will soon house the new Silk Road Express.



Doing the cha-cha with poli-sci professor Ginsberg

IAP prof enjoys teaching, says JHU undergrads take ideas seriously

MICHELLE FIKS

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Routinely lecturing to about 400 students in a single class every year can prove daunting to some professors. However, Professor Benjamin Ginsberg, the Bernstein Chair in Political Science and recipient of the 2000 George Owen Teaching Award, embraces the opportunity to teach Introduction to American Politics (IAP) every fall.

Born in Germany, Professor Ginsberg grew up in Chicago, right next to the famed University of Chicago.

"When it was time to go to college, my family just assumed that I would attend Chicago,' Ginsberg said.

It was there that Ginsberg met his future mentor, Professor Hans I. Morgenthau. Ginsberg says that in addition to being an excellent teacher, Morgenthau was "An exponent of 'realpolitik' and loved shattering students' illusions in class." There, Ginsberg also studied with Professor Theodore Lowi. The two later collaborated to produce a series of widely used textbooks on American government. While at Chicago, Ginsberg entertained the idea of going to law school, though he ultimately decided against it and set forth on the path to academia.

What initially attracted pro-

fessor Ginsberg to political science is the fact that the field plays a pivotal role in the lives of a huge number of people around the world and that its "interplay between institutions and individual interests and preferences" is

'Ît's always amazing...to watch people lie, cheat and steal in pursuit of political power... I observe it but I still can't understand it," said Ginsberg.

Professor Ginsberg taught at Cornell University for 20 years before coming to Hopkins. When the head of the Department of Political Science at Hopkins offered Ginsberg a teaching position, Ginsberg jumped at the offer.

I looked outside my window in Ithaca, N.Y., saw three feet of snow and said I was very interested," he explained. "Hopkins offered me the Bernstein Chair in Political Science; I dug myself out of the snows of upstate New York and moved to the sunny South."

Teaching at Hopkins comes with its benefits. Ginsberg appreciates teaching at Hopkins because here, the "undergraduates take ideas seriously.

"They are smart and interesting and its fun to interact with them in the classroom and in oneon-one settings," he said.

His advice to aspiring students of political science, as well as all other fields, is to put the pencil to the paper.

"Do as much writing as you possibly can. Whatever career you pursue, the ability to write is crucially important," he said.

When away from his Hopkins work load, Ginsberg can be found playing tennis (twice weekly) or taking dancing lessons with his wife. He admits that the "swing, hustle and cha-cha are [their] favorites." Hobbies are an important facet of life to Professor Ginsberg.

'[They] preserve your sanity when work and other pressures become intense," said Ginsberg. He is also a big fan of the new athletic center and praises its facilities. At home, Ginsberg is the proud owner of many animals, including a "horse, three dogs, two cats, a parrot, cockatiel, parakeet and a turtle." His favorite TV show is Law & Order; he claims to have seen every episode at least three times. However his bad memory makes each viewing just as surprising and enjoyable as the first. On vacation, Professor Ginsberg enjoys traveling south of the border to Mexico.

Professor Ginsberg's most recent book is titled Downsizing Democracy: How America Sidelined Its Citizens and Privatized Its Public, which he co-authored with Matthew Crenson, another member of the Hopkins Department of Political Science. The book, Ginsberg says, discusses the "declining role of ordinary citizens in

American politics." In times past, Ginsberg explained, the U.S. government needed the active support of its citizens. The citizens provided the government with a source of revenue via taxation and a source of defense, via "citizen soldiers" Today, the relationship between the U.S. government and its citizens is one in which the citizens' roles are greatly reduced.

Today, the government raises its funds on the bond market and through tax withholding that doesn't offer an opportunity for tax resistance. In place of citizen soldiers we now have professional armies and high-tech weaponry,"

Ginsberg's upcoming book, also to be co-authored with Crenson, deals with a pervasive theme in modern American politics: presidents overstepping their constitutional power.

"I am going to be paying a lot of attention to this issue in IAP."

While a far cry from the snowy



Professor Benjamin Ginsberg, recent author of Downsizing Democracy.

terrain of Cornell, exactly what would Ginsberg change about the Homewood campus? He admits that the "lack of parking" is bothersome and echoes students' sentiments when he states that the "faculty club food is inedible."

The next time you step into your IAP class with Ginsberg, come prepared for his insightful lectures and his dramatic presentations. When asked whom he would cast to play himself in the Hollywood version of his life, Ginsberg said, "I would cast myself... Lecturing in IAP has definitely prepared me for a stage and screen career."

The real story behind the "Johns" in Johns Hopkins

BY GINA CALLAHAN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Most freshmen asked to explain why we attend Johns Hopkins, rather than John Hopkins University would be left looking dumfounded. Hopkins trivia may not exactly be common knowledge. For the benefit of students new and old who may be in the dark, here is a bit of Hopkins history to set the record straight.

According to the JHU Web site, Hopkins is named in honor of one man, the second Johns Hopkins. The southern Maryland native was named after his grandfather, a man bearing his mother's maiden name, Johns. Hopkins' formal education was halted when his Quaker parents freed their slaves and sent him and his brother to tend their fields. He moved to Baltimore at 17 years old to work for his uncle and later, at 24 years old, established his own mercantile house. The school's eventual benefactor later became very financially invested in the nation's first major railroad, the Baltimore and Ohio, of which he became director in 1847.

In 1867, Hopkins incorporated both the Johns Hopkins University and the Johns Hopkins Hospital and arranged for the appointment of a 12member board of trustees for each institution. When he died on Christmas Eve in 1873, he left his massive estate of \$7 million to be divided equally between his university and hospital. The gift was the largest philanthropic bequest in United States history until that time.

The first president of the University was Daniel Coit Gilman, who was inaugurated on February 22, 1876. The Hopkins' Board of Trustees selected Gilman, who was serving as president of the University of California at the time, to mold an identity for Hopkins. What Gilman created was a research institution, which

was the first university in the United States. founded on the model of the European research institution, in which research and the advancement of knowledge are integrally linked to teaching. He did this with an initial faculty consisting mostly of European or European-trained educators.

"The realization of Gilman's philosophy at Hopkins, and at other institutions that later attracted Hopkins-trained scholars, revolutionized higher education in America, leading to the research university system as it exists today," claims the JHU website.

So folks, those are the basics. However, if you are interested in delving in further, the following are extra historical tidbits about your beloved school. These and others are explained in Mame Warren's book, Johns Hopkins University: Knowledge for the World, a project commemorating the University's 125th anniversary. The book is composed of quotes, interviews and many photos of Hopkins in yesteryear and is available in the library and bookstore. That said, now you

-Hopkins was originally located downtown, in a site chosen for its close proximity to the Peabody Library. A gradual move of Hopkins' programs to the Homewood campus formally began with the Engineering Depart-

-The official Hopkins motto in Latin is "Veritas vos liberabit" meaning "The truth shall make

-Hopkins was founded without any religious affiliation, unlike other universities which have since dropped their affiliation, like Princeton, Yale and Colum-

-It is falsely rumored that the MSE Library was constructed underground because Gilman's will required that no building be higher than the Gilman Hall clock tower. In reality, the design was selected so as to not overtake the Homewood House and neighboring classroom buildings with an edifice of the library's size. (Gilman died in 1908 and construction on Gilman Hall didn't even begin until 1913.)

The University did not have female undergraduates until 1970, but there is controversy over who was the first woman to earn a degree from Hopkins. Christine Ladd-Franklin, who completed her studies in 1882, was the first to earn the Ph.D. However, the trustees refused to grant her that degree until 1926. In the meantime, Florence Bascom earned and received her Ph.D. in 1893.

-The lacrosse tradition here at Hopkins goes back a long way. The school earned its first national title in 1891 as a member of the Intercollegiate League. The Hopkins Lacrosse team also represented the United States by winning a gold medal in the 1928 and '32 Olympics, and has the record for the most Division I tournament titles with seven.

Cambodian princess weds '97 alumnus

One fateful night in a New York dance club, Marc Coumeri ran into the woman of his dreams

BY ISHAI MOOREVILLE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWSLETTER

The majority of Hopkins graduates plan to get married at some point in their lives. And eventually they do, whether they meet their spouse in college, graduate school, the office, or maybe a chance meeting in the street. For Marc Coumeri, a 1997 graduate of the Whiting School of Engineering, things happened a little bit differently. Little did he know that the woman he started dancing with one night at a Manhattan club would end up being both a Princess of Cambodia and his future wife.

It all began around Thanks-giving of 2000, late one night at 4 a.m. in the Twilo dance club in New York, where Mr. Coumeri, who works for American Express in the Risk Management Department, was hanging out with fellow Hopkins graduate and friend Noel Thomas (Eng '97).

"I was not up to going to a club that night, but my friend Noel really wanted to, so I went with him anyway," said Coumeri over a telephone interview from New York.

After they sat down and had a few drinks at the bar, Coumeri recounted, Thomas put his drink down and said "Follow me" as he made his way onto the dance floor

As they walked across the dance floor, Coumeri's future wife Princess Pekina Norodom and her friend Divina Kwok happened to be walking right by them.

"While we passed them, my friendrandomly grabbed Divina's hand and started dancing with her. That left me stranded there with Pekina so we started dancing too," said Coumeri.

They danced way into the late morning when the club finally closed. Afterwards they all went out for Dim Sum in Chinatown, where the chemistry between Coumeri and Norodom was already starting to emerge.

A full 24 hours after they had first met, Norodom called up her future husband and asked him out on their first date. However, it was hardly the romantic candlelight dinner one might imagine. Coumeri was actually invited to accompany Norodom to an Ikea Furniture store, where she said she was looking for some furniture. Later, Norodom would reveal to Coumeri that she just wanted to spend some time with him in a public place where they could get to know each other better. The date ended up a success, though it wasn't until much later that she eventually revealed her royal origins.

A few weeks passed and one day Norodom finally told her husband-to-be over the phone that she was the granddaughter of the King of Cambodia. She asked Coumeri if he recognized her last name. "I said, 'No, should I?" Coumeri was taken aback at first, but knew she was telling the truth.

"After she told me, the first person I called was my best friend Noel. I told him 'Sit down, you're not going to believe this one. My girlfriend is kind of the princess of Cambodia."

Norodom is a granddaughter of King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia, who was forced into exile by a coup in 1970 that opened the door to the Khmer Rouge. Her family settled in Beijing, where she was born in that year. When she was 10, her family moved to Connecticut. Today, she works as a product manager at Timex.

Before Coumeri proposed to his bride-to-be, he formally called up her parents and out of courtesy, asked them for their daughter's hand in marriage.

"I didn't realize it at the time, but when you ask for permission in Cambodian culture, it's supposed to be accompanied by a big ceremony," said Coumeri. "I just asked for permission over the phone and they said 'Yes, we accept you as our son."

The couple were married in a Buddhist ceremony at Phnom



COURTESY OF NOEL THOMAS

The Princess (left) poses with her grandparents and the groom.

Penh's royal palace in Cambodia on May 30 of this year. "It was definitely the most extraordinary event of my life," said Coumeri. The wedding was a whole day affair that began at 8 a.m. and was conducted in Cambodian, which was translated to Coumeri by his wife.

"The fact that she is a princess doesn't affect our relationship. She has a very normal lifestyle here, no servants or anything like that."

Looking back on the whole

thing, Coumeri is still a little surprised how quickly it all transpired.

"I wasn't really looking for someone at the time, I was just enjoying myself and it just sort of happened. So if your friend suggests doing something, go even if you don't want to."

The marriage will be profiled on The Learning Channel show A Wedding Story. The episode premieres on Monday, October 14 at 2:30 p.m., and will be repeated on Tuesday, December 24.

Sultan of Sleeze takes New York's Broadway by storm

The radical sensibility that gave us Pink Flamingos, the screen gimmick odorama, and the immortal Divine has finally broken into the mainstream. On August 15, the self-affirmed Pope of Trash, John Waters, saw the Broadway debut of his 1988 cult film, Hairspray, at the Neil Simon Theatre. What's more, the \$10.5 million adaptation is being hailed as the new Producers, the Mel Brooks musical that revolutionized New York's theater scene last year and made a killing at the Tonys.

I suppose, as Broadway increasingly features brash musicals about hookers (*The Life*), strippers (*The Full Monty*), and good-natured kitsch (*The Producers*), I should not be surprised to see Waters' name appearing on a Playbill. After all, *Hairspray* was only rated PG and is undoubtedly one of his tamer productions. Somehow, though, I had always believed that the Prince of Puke would be relegated to off-off-off

Broadway features and independent movie houses. I guess America finally came to its senses.

The delightfully campy original movie is set in 1960s Baltimore, the "hairdo capital of the world." Ricki Lake stars in her first movie appearance as Tracy Turnblad, a big girl with big hair who dreams of dancing on the Corny Collins Show, an American Bandstand-esque television show. Her mother, Edna, is the late, great Divine, making his last movie appearance. (He would die from a massive heart attack after completing the film.) Other stars include Sonny Bono, Jerry Stiller, Mink Stole and a Waters cameo.

Tracy's talented dancing and sparkling personality earn her a spot on the show, unexpected popularity, and the ire of a fellow dancer, the rich bitch Amber Von Tussle (Colleen Fitzpatrick). When Tracy witnesses firsthand the terrible state of race relations in Baltimore — the show boasts

of its monthly "Negro Day" — she becomes an outspoken advocate for the desegregation of the *Corny Collins Show*.

The live show, which Clive Barnes of the New York Post describes as "agreat big fat gorgeous hit," was written by Mark

COURTNEYRICE State of the Arts

O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan, the latter of whom, incidentally, co-wrote the book for *The Producers*. The movie's real-life '60s soundtrack is augmented with faux rock-and-roll and rhythm and blues numbers by Marc Shaiman. The director is Jack O'Brien, who brought us the Broadway rendition of *The Full Monty*, a similarly campy and entertaining romp.

While I have not yet been able

to see the Broadway production, I did sample some of Shaiman's new music. "Good Morning Baltimore," one of the opening numbers, has the perfect dose of camp and kitsch to capture the tone of Waters' movie. Another number, "Welcome to the 60s," features the black rhythm and blues, with a gravelly solo by Fierstein. "Run and Tell That!" is also an entertaining number.

Though the music may have changed, O'Brien's Broadway rendition maintains the same big-hearted message disguised in a campy spoof, depicting the triumph of black people, fat people, and, by extension, outsiders from all walks of life. Marissa Jaret Winokur, a virtual novice to the stage, is receiving fantastic reviews as the spunky Tracy. Harvy Fierstein, who won a Tony for his book of La Cage aux Folles, steps into Divine's big shoes for an expanded role as Edna. Other performers include Matthew

Morrison, Corey Reynolds, Kerry Butler and Laura Bell Bundy.

The cast and crew is already generating Tony buzz and attracting celebrity attention, including Matthew Broderick and Rosie O'Donnell. Who knew that Waters would be the catalyst of watercooler conversations and kidfriendly matinees?

Despite this recent conventional popularity boost, John Waters continues to be, first and foremost, America's ultimate independent filmmaker, social critic and provocateur. This new musical is only one of many ways that he has helped to put Baltimore's name on the map. With this story, he proves that sometimes great things come in BIG packages. Kudos to Waters for achieving mainstream success as the brains behind a soldout production; without selling out, the Sultan of Sleaze maintains his quirky empathies and unique genius.

Popcorn, pop culture and pornograpl

A guide to Baltimore Cinemas: what to see and where to see it

BY JASON SHOHANFAR

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Remember back in the 1940s when Baltimore was a booming harbor city, when North Avenue was one of the richest areas filled with giant stone row-houses and the Johns Hopkins Homewood campus had half as many buildings, and when there were over 100 movie theaters in Baltimore City alone? A lot has changed since then, in a bad way.

Today, there are exactly four working movie theaters in the city; the days of the Parkway and the Boulevard are over. But we can still work with what we've got. As an introduction for you incoming frosh, here's a list of Baltimore movie theaters and where to see what.

Let's start big - The Senator Theater. The Senator is located on York Avenue across from Staples and sports the biggest screen and seating capacity in all of Maryland. One of the few rem-

nants from the old days, the Senator has been a functional theater since 1939 and has kept the grand look of theaters from that period. With 70mm capabilities and a massive sound system, any movie looks good on this screen. Just a heads up: Lawrence of Arabia will be playing for two weeks starting September 20. Over the course of the year they bring new movies that just have to be seen on the big screen (Apocalypse Now Redux, Attack of the Clones, etc.). And every now and then they'll have an older film that you always wished you could see on the big screen (Spartacus, Rules of the Game, Rear Window). You can check out their schedule at http://www.senator.com.

Next up is the Charles Theater, located at 1711 N. Charles St., near Penn Station. With five screens and stadium-style seating in four of them, this is your best bet for independent and foreign films. Originally, the Charles was a singlescreen theater showing only older films. After devastating financial losses, they moved next door, added some more screens and hit up the newer market.

The Charles also has special revival screenings on Saturdays at noon for five bucks. There are great classics every week. You can listings film http://www.thecharles.com. The Charles is perfect for film buffs and fans of independent cinema.

The next two Baltimore theatres that should be on your list are The Apex and The Earle theaters. Both are classic landmarks, and both are porn theaters. The Apex, located on Broadway in Fells Point, is slightly more sterile and cold for my taste. The Earle is located on Belair Road and has a much warmer and cozier environment, better suited for your smutty needs.

Both theaters have two new skin flicks every week, and something tells me you won't need to check the listings. Thanks to these theaters, after a hard week of studying for Orgo or whatever, there is rest and relaxation just around the corner. You might even spot one of The Earle's regular patrons, independent film director John Waters.

Some of you may be wondering, "Where can I check out the new Vin Diesel movie?" There are other multiplexes outside of the city: Towson Commons, Loews White Marsh, and Egyptian Muvico (at Arundel Mills). That should probably cover it for any other movie you would want to

Now to cap this list is our very own Shriver Hall (run by students in Weekend Wonderflix). Yes, your local auditorium can transform into a movie theater with Dolby sound and 35mm capabilities. Weekend Wonderflix will be showing all your favorites from the summer like Spider-Man, Austin Powers, and XXX, as well as free sneak previews every now and then. Check them out at http://www.ihu.edu/~jhufilm, as their schedule is frequently up-



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/ NEWS-LETTE The Charles Theater is a mainstay of the Baltimore Cinemas.

Spidey spins web to top off summer blockbusters

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

This certainly has been the summer of the blockbuster, lavish, star-powered productions staged in mythic dream spaces, where Hollywood's best technowizardry accelerates ordinary human stories into mind-blowing epics. Coming of age, confronting the past, losing and regaining faith are still the old tales, but what's new is the gloss they've acquired and the pure adrenaline that pulses through

Hollywood's menu this summer tells all: an assassin is given the chance to rethink his identity after his memories are wiped clean; an apprentice in another galaxy loses control of himself as his powers grow; and a man of God loses his faith and must confront some unholy visitors. Of all these stories, however, the big success was a film about a geek

who discovers his wings after a bite from a radioactive spider. Spider-Man was undoubtedly the ultimate summer block-

Sam Raimi, the man who gave us Hercules and Xena, scored a triumph on the big screen with Spider-Man. Peter Parker is a hopeless nerd who wears clunky glasses, lives with his Victorian aunt and uncle and has a crush on the girl-next-door (classic nerd ingredients). On a field trip, he gets bitten by a genetically altered spider, and his life literally turns upside down. He wakes up with super strength and a classy set of spiderabilities that include crawling up walls, swinging on webs and sensing things with his biological alert system. Peter designs a snazzy new costume to go with his new assets and voila, Spider-Man is born. Soon, he's dancing on the New York skyline and juggling green goblins, jealous friends and the girl next door, all in mid-air.

So what made this movie work? Known for staging superhuman feats of athletics - as in Xena's gravity defying kicks and flips - Raimi finally found his perfect character, one who can keep the human touch through the dizzying visual magic. Peter Parker's ordinariness makes it

he's the sweet, slightly clueless loser with adjustment issues who strikes a chord with the aches and pains of growing up. What comes naturally to Xena and Hercules

Spider-Man was undoubtedly the ultimate summer blockbuster.

through puberty.

Tobey Maguire was a solid choice to play Parker, bringing to Spider-Man the persona he's honed to perfection in Pleasantville and The Cider House Rules: the misfit who must find his niche, and yet whose fresh innocence gives a redeeming touch to the gangliness of adolescence. When the mutation hits him like a pound of bricks, we shiver in sympathy as his body changes too quickly for him to understand what's happening. How Peter catches up to his body makes for a solid adaptation of a comic book coming of age story.

What didn't work for me was anywhere the Green Goblin entered in the plot. Though it made for some impressive visual sequences, I wanted more details when it came to Spider-Man's relationship with the Green Goblin. Sure, Norman Osbourne is insane and vengeful after being denied research funding, but there's a problem when his venom for Spider-Man is reduced to anger against a road-block. Raimi only skims over the love-hate tension between master and ex-protégé, failing to explore any moral depth in their relationship.

Even during the face-off, when the arch enemies unmask themselves, the emotional shock is overshadowed by the visual

Despite some dissatisfaction with the emotional development, I believe Spider-Man was the quintessential summer movie hit. It had elements to appeal to all viewers and offered the sort of light-hearted fare that movie-goers crave. Raimi trapped us all in his web of Spidey-mania.

OUT AND ABOUT MARTIN MARKS

Welcomeback, everyone! If the first week of school hasn't tired you out enough yet, there are various exciting happenings going on around the Baltimore/D.C. area.

This afternoon at the West Mt. Vernon Park (at the intersection of Charles Street and Mt. Vernon Place) the Concerts in the Park series will feature the Ska/Jazz stylings of the Players. The last time I saw these guys, they were opening for the Pietasters and put on a fantastic show. Combined with one of my favorite outdoor venues in Baltimore, this show shouldn't be missed. If you can't catch them now, they'll be playing at the Recher Theatre later in the month with Jah Works. Everything starts at 5:30 p.m. and runs until 8 p.m.

The British are coming! The Britishare coming! For you freshmen out there who are still young enough to rave the night away, find an upperclassman with a car and get to D.C.! On Friday night, at Nation in D.C., Buzz will be featuring a rumble between the United States and U.K. DJs. John Tab will be spinning in the main room with DJ Icey, Dara, Adegen, Ransom, Switchstab and Rennie Pilgrem, while Scott Henry will be spinning out on the patio. It's \$15 before 11 p.m., \$20 afterward, at the intersection of K Street and Half Street.

as mythic heroes is abruptly thrust onto a 21st century teenager who's skidding in the personal relationships department and isn't exactly the most graceful example of a guy's leap

Fall 2002 Hopkins varsity sports preview

NEWS-LETTER STAFF

Cross Country

The Men's and Women's Cross Country teams completed the 2001 season by finishing sixth and seventh, respectively, in the Centennial Conference Tournament. The team is returning many strong runners after what was considered a rebuilding year.

The teams opened the season at the Salisbury Invitational last weekend with both teams earning admirable finishes. The women's team earned a sixth place finish at the meet out of a field of 16 teams. The men's team finished in ninth place out of 16

Field Hockey

After a slow start last season, the Johns Hopkins Field Hockey team rebounded with a late season winning streak that vaulted the team to the Centennial Conference finals. After a disappointing 10-9 season, the team is expected to return to national prominence. A pre-season coaches poll placed Hopkins atop the Centennial Conference.

The Blue Jays began the season with a bang, defeating Scranton 4-1. Junior Jenny Farrelly scored two goals to lead the team. Their next game is an away game against Haverford on Saturday at 11 a.m.

Football

The 2001 season proved to be successful for the Blue Jays team that ended the 2000 season at an even 5-5. The 2001 team finished the year with a 6-3 record, 4-2 in

Centennial Conference play, and a victory over No. 9 ranked Western Maryland, the highest ranked team Hopkins has ever defeated. In a preseason coaches poll, the team earned a rank of No. 3 behind McDaniel and Muhlenberg.

The team opens their season on Saturday, Sept. 14, against Washington & Lee. Last season, the Jays annhilated the Generals 34-3.

Men's Soccer

Coming off of a 17-3 season, the Men's Soccer team hopes to continue their winning ways despite the losses of leading scorers Matt Doran, Aerik Williams and first team All-American Ryan Kitzen to graduation. The team finished the season with a 9-0 record in the Centennial Conference but suffered a heartbreaking loss to Gettysburg during the Centennial Conference Tournament. The team recovered from their loss and proceeded to win the ECAC Mid-Atlantic Regional championship.

In the team's first game of the season the Jays defeated Manhattanville College 5-0 in the Dr. Al Tucci JHU Kickoff Championship at Homewood field. Senior midfielder Daniel Brienza, sophomore midfielder Chris Brown, junior forward Chad Tarabolous, senior midfielder Adam Hack and freshman Steve Reed all scored a goal a piece to lead the team to victory.

Women's Soccer

After winning the ECAC Mid-Atlantic Regional championships the past two years, the Women's soccer team looks forward to a chal-



All thos ebumps to the head didn't keep soccer from winning.

lenging new year after losing a large part of their team, including their two leading scorers. The team's defensive core, that managed to set aschool record of nine straight shutouts, remains largely intact.

In their opening contest against nearby Goucher College, the Lady Jays earned an impressive 6-0 victory. The team was led by junior Jessica Sapienza's two goals and three assists by senior Jill Minger. The team's next match-up is an away game SunUniversity.

Volleyball

Last season, the volleyball team, consisting mainly of freshmen managed to earn a 16-15 record. This year an older and more experienced team is expecting to earn a record well above

The team opened the season by earning a fourth place finish at

day, Sept. 8 against New York the Franlin & Marshall Tournament with a 1-2 record.

Water Polo

Always among the strongest teams at Hopkins, the water polo team was ranked as high as No. 2 in Division III polls last season. They also finished in eighth place at the Collegiate Water Polo Association Eastern Division Championships.



Despite being the youngest team in the nation, Hopkins ended the regular season ranked No. 1.

Youthful team surprises many

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12 a way few had expected that they would.

Underscoring the team's inexperience was the sheer youth of many players. Beginning the year, juniors Bobby Benson and Adam Doneger had combined to start 55 games. The other 37 players on the team had combined to start just 35 games between them. And yet, the team's inexperience didn't seem to matter as the Jays secured victory after victory without looking back.

Of the 10 players who started every game, four were freshmen, including Kyle Barrie, Peter LeSueur, Kyle Harrison and Chris Watson. Conor Ford accomplished the same feat as a sophomore.

Harrison expressed mixed emotions when characterizing his feelings about the lacrosse team's season.

'Obviously a season is never successful without championsip, but making it to the the Final Four was great, especially because we had such a young team," he said.

Another key element of the Blue Jays' success was the confident, dominant play of inexperienced senior goalkeeper Nick Murtha. Murtha had never started a game prior to this year, and yet he played like a seasoned veteran, leading the Jays to crucial victories along the course of the season.

"Nick stepped up and made

a huge difference for us," said Harrison.

Thus, even though the Men's Lacrosse team's 2001-02 season came to a close without a coveted championship trophy, this did not mean that the team had failed to accomplish goals. Rather, they often exceeded expectations, beating top-notch teams and showing that they have a bright future.

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After three years of toiling on the bench, senior Nick Murtha finally emerged as a force in goal.

Blue Jays fall to Princeton in NCAA semi-final matchup

Tigers end championship hopes for no. 1 ranked Johns Hopkins team

BY ERIC RIDGE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LET-

In a season that began amid concerns about their inexperience, the Johns Hopkins Men's Lacrosse team came together as a whole, advanced to the NCAA semifinal game and played like a squad of seasoned veterans.

With four freshmen in the starting lineup on opening day, there was much room for concern on the part of onlookers who said the squad was too young. But the Men's Lacrosse team turned critics into fans and doubters into believers as they soon proved themselves to be one of the nation's strongest

The Jays are a perennial powerhouse in Division I lacrosse, but this year they were never expected to wield the scoring power or defensive prowess they soon inflicted on their opponents. But by blending a mix of talent and toughness, the Jays consistently found themselves in the win column.

The team compiled an impressive 11-1 regular-season record before defeating Massachusetts in the NCAA Quarterfinals only to fall to No. 4 Princeton 11-9 in the semifi-

Despite the heartbreaking loss that ended their season without a national championship, Blue Jays' Head Coach Dave Pietramala appreciated the accomplishments of his squad.

When you've experienced a special group like this, its tough to see it come to an end. But, these guys have nothing to be ashamed about. In the beginning of the season we were the third-worst team in Baltimore, 13 games later we're 12-1 and playing the defending champions in the Final Four," said Pietramala at a post-game press conference following the Princeton loss.

TheBlue Jays made their presence known from the beginning of the season, when they put together an impressive 8-5 upset victory over preseason No. 1 and defending NCAA champions Princeton in front of a raucous crowd at Homewood Field.

Hopkins followed that victory with two more, in a streak that carried them to the No. 1 ranking before losing badly to Virginia 12-6.

The Blue Jays, however, managed to bounce back after the embarrassing loss. They won their remaining nine games, ended the regular season ranked No. 1, and earned the top seed in the NCAA Tournament before facing the Princeton Tigers once again, this time in the NCAA Semifinal.

much-anticipated match-up surely took on extra significance because of Hopkins' season-opening triumph against the Tigers.

Looking to exact revenge, Princeton took an early lead and never looked back. Thanks to scores by Brad Dumont and Josh White within the first six minutes of the contest, the Jays found themselves trailing 2-0 seemingly when the game had just begun.

Junior midfielder Adam Doneger put the Jays on the board with their first goal, but his efforts were not nearly enough. Things only got worse for the Jays when B.J. Prager scored two goals and Dumont added one more to increase the Tigers' lead to a commanding score of 5-1. The two teams exchanged goals for the remainder of the half, and the Tigers went into halftime boasting an impressive 7-3 lead.

The second half held in store much of the same, as the Jays found themselves unable to narrow the gap. Each time Hopkins managed to string together a scoring run, their charge was answered by one of equal proportion by the Tigers.

Holding off a late Blue Jay charge, Princeton secured victory by a score of 11-9, ending the Blue Jays' season.

But despite the loss, Hopkins players had much to be proud of. The team, which had widely been considered the youngest in the nation had stepped up in

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

Lady Jays falter in ECAC finals

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

It was a season of mixed emotions for the Women's Lacrosse team as they battled to keep up with lofty expectations while struggling to compete against some of the top teams in the country.

Hopkins was led by the play of several proven veterans mixed in with a few new faces. Senior attackers Jamie Larrimore and Erin Wellner led the squad to their third consecutive season of competing in the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championship, a contest that they lost to Harvard by a score of 9-8.

The team's appearance in that particular tournament, though, was bittersweet. All along, the Jays had hoped they would garner enough victories to earn a bid into the NCAA Tournament but at the end of the season they fell just short.

"Weworked hard. Even though we didn't make it to the NCAA Tournament we still had a good year," said freshman Erin Riordan.

Much of that can be attributed back to a slow beginning to the season. The Lady Jays got off to a very rough start and were thus forced to play catch-up for much of the remainder of the year. Hopkins lost their first three games of the season before defeating William & Mary, a team that was ranked No. 14 at the time. That victory was key as it spurred the Blue Jays onto a four-game winning streak.

William & Mary was our turnaround game. We played as a team and we had a lot of success," said Riordan.

After the victories, the Jays

found themselves with a winning record for the first time during

A loss to Penn State broke the winning streak but did little to deter the Blue Jays, who followed the loss with three more victories.

But the Jays then encountered the toughest part of their schedule and they did not fare as well. With their backs against the wall, and a berth into the NCAA Championship in serious doubt, Hopkins did not help their own chances by losing three of their final four games. Those losses ultimately sealed the team's fate and they consequently accepted a bid into the ECAC Tournament.

To the Jays' credit, most of their regular season losses came against top opponents. Overall, they played eight teams that went on to be ranked in the final Brine/ IWLCA poll. Five of those teams were ranked in the top 10 and two advanced to the Final Four.

Among the numerous bright spots during the season was the success of three players who were named to the American Lacrosse All-Conference Team on May 7. Senior attacker Jamie Larrimore, sophomore midfielder Heidi Pearce, and freshman defender Lacey-Leigh Hentz all earned the honors after exceptional seasons.

In addition, Wellner and Larrimore were two of 20 players selected to play in the 2002 North/ South Division Senior All-Star Game on Saturday.

Finally, Larrimore earned special distinction after reaching the fourth highest total career points in Hopkins history with 253 career points.



MIKE FISCHER/FILE PHOTO

The Women's Lacrosse team fell to Harvard to end the season.

Much ado about something:

Discover where to watch all the hot thespians on campus with our theater guide



NOCK UBOL/FILE PHOTO

The Barnstormers produced the rock opera Tommy in the Spring of 2001.

All the student

be able to take

performing groups will

advantage of the newly

completed Mattin Arts

By David Leiman

Although Hopkins has no theatre major, there are many theatre performance groups on campus. So, if you strive to be the next Tom Hanks, the next David Arquette or just the person who enjoys watching one and making fun of the pitiful career of the other, there are many opportunities for you.

The first big performance show of he year, called the

the year, called the O-Show, comes at the end of freshman orientation. With its uniquely large audience, the Oshow occupies an important role for performance groups at Hopkins. A number of student performance groups, ranging from dance to a capella to comedy, put on the show, which is a student favorite every year.

As MC's of the event, their largest

of the year, Hopkins' only improvisational and sketch comedy group, the Buttered Niblets, get a chance to show off their talent and also recruit new members. This may give them an advantage over some of the other theater groups staging shows around campus.

During the rest of the year, the Niblets put on shows during the first week of every month.

The Niblets represent one of the six student groups on campus. This list also includes the Barnstormers, the traditionally black group Dunbar, Baldwin and Hughes, the one-act play troupe, Witness, the newly founded JHU Shakespeare Company, and the other comedy group on campus,

Throat Culture. If you like jokes about Hopkins and some of the ridiculous things that go on here, this group is sure to please.

The Barnstormers, JHU's oldest and largest student-run theater group, puts on two plays every year and usually charge a couple bucks for student ad-

mission. Though they have had many homes over the years, they now perform in the Smirnow Theatre in the Mattin Center. Last year, the Barnstormers put on such favorites as "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way

to the Forum." This weekend, the group will be performing "Rosencrantz and Gildenstern are Dead," and in November, the group will perform in their biggest show this semester, "Rumors," by Neil Simon.

"This year, we're looking to keep good theatre going at Hopkins, comments President Kris Jansma. "We've got a lot of good talent and great people on the production end."

Throat Culture, which is an umbrella group of Barnstormers, is a group that does solely sketch comedy. They also put on about one show per semester, this year's fall performance will be on November 15.

Another Barnstomers group that always interests many freshmen is the Freshmen One Acts, a collection of several short, one-act plays performed only by freshmen. This year's performance will be in mid-October.

The newly-founded JHU Shakespeare Company, started last year by Junior Bob Alleman, put on its first show, *Much Ado About Nothing*, in an outdoor performance on the Beach. The roles were acted by students who auditioned with the directors, and the turn out was an atest to all the hard work they put in. The company hopes for similar success this year.

Dunbar, Baldwin and Hughes, an African American theatre company, performs a variety of African American drama, including plays, skits, monologues, poetry recitals and creative dance shows. The company also puts on two major productions a year.

Finally, JHU's Witness group not only puts on student-run plays, but the shows are written by the students themselves. The group, which was founded only a few years ago, is gaining popularity.

All the student performing groups will be able to take advantage of the newly completed Mattin Arts Center. Groups like the Niblets are hoping to utilize this new resource.

Niblets member Loren Dunn commented that the Mattin Center is "a big step up for theater at Hopkins—it's a real improvement."

In addition to the new stage, many players are lauding former Addams Family star John Astin's return to Hopkins with improving the theater scene. "Astin definitely bolstered theater at Hopkins. In particular, he has renewed interest [in it]," said Dunn. Astin now teaches theatre classes that are part of the Hopkins curriculum. Selected students are responsible for putting on a show at the end of each semester.

Hopkins certainly has a broad array of fine student theatre. So, instead of dropping fifty bucks to see a play in downtown Baltimore, why not first explore the Hopkins theatre scene? Chances are that you'll be pleasantly surprised.

CULT COLLEGE CLASSICS — FILMS TO SEE

There are hundreds upon hundreds of films on the topic of the college experience, but few ever get recognition unless they are jam packed with naked coeds and raucous frat parties. While I must admit, Revenge of the Nerds and Animal House are thoroughly enjoyable, I often find them slightly depressing in retrospect as I marvel about the lack of similarities between the big wild State Colleges and our own alma mater. With that in mind, I am providing a list of some great old movies about college that are a must see despite their lack of commercial media attention. In my opinion, this makes them even better.

College — 1927, directed by James W. Horne featuring Buster Keaton and Anne Cornwall, is a silent film about a bookworm college kid who tries to become an athlete to impress his girlfriend. In typical Keaton manner, this film gets funnier and funnier as the goofy character tries his hardest to be competent in sports that he doesn't even know the name of. If you can get past the fact that it's black and white and

silent, this is a really great old movie to catch that will have you laughing at each slapstick blunder.

The Happiest Days of Your Life—1950, directed by Frank Launder starring Alastair Sim and Margaret Rutherford, is a cute light British comedy about the craziness that ensues when an all girls college is assigned to an all boys college campus by mistake. It's easy to imagine all the many problems that arise is this fast-paced farce, that also has a bit of lighthearted romance.

So This is College — 1929, directed by Sam Wood, with stars Robert Montgomery and Elliot Nugent, is a fun early musical that deals with two football-playing fraternity brothers competing for a girl. Though this story line has been a staple in all kinds of college films, this antiquated version is really interesting and has a different twist as it shows such a different representation of college life than any of us have ever seen.

- compiled by Emily Mayer

Center.

Want to be a Hopkins hard body? Hit the A.C.

That pesky freshman 15 is hard to shed, so why not avoid it in the first place? Work off that Terrace double cheeseburger at the new AC and have fun doing it.

By Ishai Mooreville

During the summer months, many Hopkins students enjoy their time away from the books by exercising and building up a chiseled look that they can bring back to school in September. In the past, this summer schedule seldom carried over into the academic year with the lackluster weight room on campus, not to mention all the classes and other activities students to which students are devoted. This fall, however, they will have no reason to stop their healthy inclinations with the brand new Ralph O'Connor Recreation Center at their

The state-of-the-art 63,000 square foot center, which officially opened in January at the beginning of the second semester, fills the need for expansion of student athletic facilities. The adjoining Newton Athletic Center, which formerly served as both recreational center and varsity gym, is now devoted entirely to the use of Hopkins' varsity teams, which leaves the O'Connor Center to the rest. Inside this long-awaited temple for the common athlete lies a myriad of opportunities to get the body in shape.

At the center of the facility lies a multipurpose gym comprised of three parallel basketball courts. At almost anytime of day or night, students and professors alike can head to the courts for full-court games or maybe just pick-up one-on-one battles. This space can be converted into five volleyball courts or can house three badminton courts. On the north end of the gym, four racquetball courts are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Two of the courts are also easily convertible to squash courts. No, they have nothing to do with the vegetable. Equipment is available for both games.

Around the second floor of the gym lies an elevated track, one-tenth of a mile long, for when the weather isn't permitting an outside jog. Say goodbye to the days when four laps equaled a

Perhaps one of the most appealing parts of the new rec center is the climbing wall. At 30 feet high, it has 13 different rope rungs spread out across its width to allow that many climbers to use it at one time. The wall features two artificial cracks that serve as climbing grips and several different routes to challenge all skill levels. On-site climbing education and supervision is provided by a welltrained and experienced staff of fellow Hopkins students. Just remember to yell, "Billet on!" before you make the first step.

The fitness room, located on the right as you enter the center, has all the

There's no better way to start a weekend than with a little bench pressing coupled with the sounds of Kid Rock to psych you up.

equipment Richard Simmons could ask for. It houses all new cardio equipment including six treadmills, six elliptical cross trainers, four upright bikes, six recumbent bikes, three ergometer rowing machines and three stretching machines. It also has a 12-piece series of toning equipment for the purpose of lower impact muscle enhancement.

The center also provides giant glass windows looking out onto campus so exercising patrons can snicker at all those outside who get out of breath on their way to Mudd Hall.

Just below the fitness room lies the weight room, where hard bodies and machines collide. Not only is this a great place to meet a future mate, it also allows you to pick equipment designed to tone specific parts of your body. These include Paramount Advance Performance machines, Hammer Strength plate loaded machines and free weight components, for those bodybuilders who exercise the old-fashioned way. There's no better way to start a weekend than with a little bench pressing coupled with the sounds of Kid Rock to psych

The building of the center also led to the renovation of the pool locker rooms for those Hopkins students who enjoy the old backstroke. The new locker rooms are fully air-conditioned and have individual showers, bathing suit dryers and lockers for student access. This provides for a nice environment in which to cool down after a long hard workout.

Those of you who are interested in playing competitive sports but may have not had the right combination of speed and stick-handling ability to make the Blue Jay's lacrosse team can still have a go of it through intramurals. They are offered every season at the center, and students can play in either dorm, fraternity or independent leagues where students form their own teams. Among the most popular sports are indoor soccer and flag football in the fall, dodgeball and basketball in the winter and volleyball and softball in the

On some evenings, part of the gym turns into a ping-pong mecca as some of the best college players in the nation take to upwards of 10 tables with balls and paddles. Don't get intimidated though, since games are open to anyone who might have the inclination. Club sports also provide an outlet for the raging athlete within. Men and Women's teams in ultimate Frisbee, lacrosse and soccer all field full teams which play against other universities' club teams.

With all these amenities, the O'Connor Recreation Center serves to be a central gathering point for students for years to come. Before you know it, this campus is going to start looking like an episode of Body by Jake. That is, of course, a Jake with a penchant for analyzing international conflict who also aspires to be a brain

For more information, visit the Web

http://www.jhu.edu/~recsport/Facilities/amenities.htm



The new athletic center, which opened this spring, provides the campus with much-needed exercise equipment.



Classes your GPA will thank you for

Got the urge to be the butt of dorky engineer and pre-med jokes? Here are some of the easiest classes on campus. Of course, that's all relative.

By Lindsay Saxe

First and foremost, let me tell you this: the phrase "easy class" at Hopkins is what my high school French teacher would call a "faux ami." In layman's terms, it's equivalent to a roommate who brings a pie home from his weekend with Aunt Peggy and declines to tell you that Aunt Peg's half blind and can't tell the difference between apples and pig's feet. Needless to say, you're happy because there's something besides ramen in the fridge, but after your ten minutes of blind contentment, you're left puking like a bastard, wishing you hadn't been so easily deceived.

The truth is, easy classes are all relative. Granted, there are some classes like the senior survey course on Las Vegas offered last semester which require little more than enthusiasm, creativity and an interest in the history of whorehouses and craps. I've also heard that The History of the Automobile and 100-level Writing Sems courses are the way to go. However, I have heard a lot of things. For example, numerous people espoused that Stats I was an "easy fourcredit A." Well, kids, I'm here to tell you, that all depended upon whom you asked. One of my friends had no trouble getting perfect scores on our tri-weekly examinations, while another had to literally work his way out of a three-point GPA hole after bombing the first so-called "easy exam." I, myself, spent the semester trying to figure out how many times I'd have to wash and wax Donniel Fishkind's car before he'd forgive my inept inability to grasp the concept of a standard normal curve.

There are probably quite a few students who'll read this and say, "Uh, is she a moron? That class was cake," or What is she talking about? That class gave it to me." Junior Justin Gainor put it perfectly when he said, "confide in someone with similar interests and study habits. A biomedical engineer

But, really, who am I to question the romantic tendencies of an engineer?

may not find a literature class very easy, while a history major may cringe at physics." So true. You wouldn't want to take a science course that your whizkid-Physics-major roommate said was a walk through the park. But then again, that may just be a tidbit of common

sense. Your average engineer may have some trouble with that 100-level Writing Sems course, if poetry with words isn't really his thing. But, really, who am I to question the romantic tendencies of an engineer?

Another Junior, Jeff Fiorenza said that he found the most enjoyable and relaxing course he's taken at Hopkins to be Italian. Knowing Jeff, I'd say he put in his fair share of work, but he still found the Italian teachers to be "really animated." He also said, "the atmosphere in the classroom was not like that of the science courses I've taken. Everyone was really laid-back and relaxed." Just as Italians should be, I'd say.

One of my friends who also partook in the same course last semester had the opportunity to do his class project on Italian wines (while providing free samples for his classmates.) I think anyone could enjoy tasting the aroma and bouquet of a few Tuscan grapes, engineer or otherwise. I had an Intermediate French class last semester that was by far my favorite. Although I had some trouble learning the grammar, the instructor (props Claire Kew) was enthusiastic and helpful—she made it easier to crawl out of bed and face the death lane on North Charles at 8:30 every morning. And I also had the chance to test my culinary skills and nearly poison my class with a daring chocolate mousse recipe.

Another class that most students definitely shouldn't struggle in is Business Communications. Apparently, this class usually doesn't even last for its full scheduled time. In addition, the homework is reportedly easy and the material is a cynch.

So it's probably safe to say that the Europeans at Hopkins know how to do it right-learning, that is. That's probably the one conclusion that can be made about classes at Hopkins. That's not to say Romance language courses are easy—on the contrary, they can be quite difficult. However, if you're willing to put in some time, effort, and creativity, I think they can be the most fun and the most rewarding of them all.



Some people like taking classes that involve spending all day in the computer lab. To others, it's pure torture.

Classes that will expand and entertain the mind Hey, how about taking some classes that you actually like? Here are 10 reasons to get out of bed in the morning, other than your GPA. By Mike Spector.

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled."

-Plutarch

By Mike Spector

So you've just gotten to Hopkins and have no idea what any of the classes are like, except for the ones you may have sat in on during a recent campus visit. Or you're an upperclassmen looking for advice because you want to pick the best classes this place has to offer.

You won't find anything math, science or boring related here (Statistics being the lone exception). But you will find classes that will make you think and, above all, keep you entertained. College should be fun and although the following courses require work just like any other class, you should find yourself having a good time.

In any case, here's a list of 10 classes you should definitely take before you

Holocaust Testimonies with Ruth Leys

You may think you know all there is to know about this tragedy. But what you learned in high school and watching Schindler's List pale in comparison to the knowledge you will gain from this insightful class. With Leys you will learn about facets of the Holocaust you didn't know existed and also examine the testimony of survivors. Is their testimony accurate? Or are they too traumatized to pain an objective picture? What exactly did happen in the concentration camps among prisoners? This class addresses these questions and much more. And Leys is one of the brightest lecturers here at Hopkins. You won't be disappointed.

The Freud Wars with **Ruth Leys**

If it aint broke, don't fix it, so here's yet another Leys class. Learn about the history of Freud and study his cases in this stimulating class. And prepare to be intrigued by the "Freud Wars" - the continual debates among scholars concerning the validity of Freud's theories. This class has great reading and fascinating class seminars.

Constitutional Law with Joel Grossman

If you're thinking about law school down the road, you have to take this class. Constitutional Law, affectionately known as "Conlaw" in the inner circles, takes you on a two-semester journey from Marshall to Rehnquist. Almost all the significant cases in American history are covered, and Grossman is an authority on them all. The first semester is a larger class, and is not nearly as exciting as the second semester, where Grossman leads a small group in examining cases such as U.S. v. Nixon and Miranda v. Arizona. Grossman likes to talk a lot, but every word is worth listening to - you'll have a much better idea about law school after Grossman takes you under his

Any Screenplay Writing Class with Mark Friedman or Marc Lapadula

What's more fun that writing movies? Learn how with two writers who know the ins and outs of Hollywood script writing. You'll find out that writing a screenplay is a lot harder than it looks. Start with "Art of the Screenplay" with Lapadula, and then make your way to more advanced workshop classes with Lapadula or Friedman. Check the Writing Seminars and Film and Media Studies departments for different screenplay course offerings. Screenplay writing is some of the most fun and challenging writing you can do while at Hopkins. And Lapadula and Friedman are fun, energetic and

Shakespeare on Love and Knowledge with Allen Grossman

Taught by the legendary Allen Grossman, this will be the best Shakespeare class you ever take. Grossman is getting on in his years (he'll remind you of an aged Ben Franklin), but his insight is unparalleled. It's a lot of reading and a fair amount of writing, but if you go to class and do the work, you'll have a Shakespeare experience like no other. Grossman's lectures will make you understand the Bard on a whole new level.

Introduction to **American Politics with Benjamin Ginsberg**

This course will very much remind you of our high school government class, with one major differ-



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins offers many interesting classes, but you just have to know how to find them. Use our guide as a starting point.

ence: It's taught by the king of cynics. Ginsberg will give you a new, cynical perspective on American politics and you'll never look at the things the same way. The class isn't overly challenging and serves as a good foundation for understanding what's happening in our nation's capital. I recommend taking this class over the summer, where every week you get to take a trip to Washington, D.C. and get a taste of politics where it's really

The Buddhist Expereince

Come on, you know you want to learn about the Buddha. This course explores Buddhismand the Buddhahimself. It fulfills a history requirement and I know one friend who took it twice because he enjoyed the course so much.

Statistics

Some say this is the easiest course they've taken at Hopkins. Some say it's the hardest. Either way, I've been told by many professionals that Statistics is the one math course you shouldn't do without. So, bear down and get it under our belt. Talk to others who have taken it and see if you can find a good professor.

Peabody Classes

It's 10 minutes down the road and any Hopkins student can register for classes. The renowned music school offers courses in theory, piano, ear-training, conducting, music history and more. Private lessons are also available for a small fee. Those who play a musical instrument or have studied music previously will enjoy these courses, but anyone can register. It's just one extra form at the Registrar's office, so get off your bum.

A class covering something you know nothing about

You are here to learn, after all. You've got four years, but they go by quickly. Be sure to take a class that will expand your knowledge. Don't be intimidated by subject matter that you know nothing about. That's why there are so many different courses - so you can learn more. After college, there isn't much learning left to do. Take as much as you can away from Johnny Hop.

So, good luck young bretheren, and if you find a great class not on the above list, be sure to let this guru know so I may pass it on to the next batch of young, eager freshman.



Selling out and joining the dark side

This former English major gave up her passion to join the ranks of the evil I.R. empire

By Jessica Valdez

I've been an English major since fifth

As a girl of 12, I fell in love with words, language and the art of literature. From Camus to Dickens to Dostoevsky to Fitzgerald to Tolstoy, I was drugged with the beauty of their language.

Simply put, I was and still am the epitome of an English major.

And now, as of this August, I have become a Hopkins banality: an International Relations major.

I remember when I came here as a wide-eyed, literature-enthused freshman, I was puzzled by the sparse population of English majors ... or by humanities majors in general for that matter. But now I know why: IR consumes all non-science majors and transforms them into one homogeneous, passionless group. It's a "practical" and "respected" major – possibly the only

IR consumes all nonscience majors and transforms them into one homogeneous, passionless group

"respected" non-science major in a school of science gurus – and lures Passionate humanities students to the parentally-lauded course of practicality.

So I have one caution to the new freshman class of humanities students: beware IR! Beware practicality. And if you're an English major, e-mail me at jvaldez2@jhu.edu because I'm sure we'd be friends.

Overall, I think it's difficult to confidently be a humanities major at Johns Hopkins, a breeding ground for eventual doctors. The humanities broaden our comprehension of the world – they engender deeper understanding of humankind and its history so that we have better insight into our contemporaries. But while it opens our horizons, the humanities do not offer tangible results, such as

saved lives by medicine or money generated by business.

So the humanities are considered "useless" and "impractical" by the overall population at Johns Hopkins ... and often by parents footing the bill.

Last year, I'd tell people with pride that I was an English major.

A knowing smirk would upturn

"Oh, you're an English major," they said in hidden laughter, inwardly thinking one of two things: 1) "Oh, you're a slacker," or 2) "Oh, you're wasting thousands of dollars just to read books you could read during your free time."

And to some extent they were right. English is an easy major if you enjoy heavy reading and possess analytical skills ... I can't speak for the other humanities majors. There are those who become humanities majors for the "easy way out" and give

the rest of the humanities a bad reputation. I personally gave up the major because I felt I was learning nothing that could be used in the career world. Passions are great, but from a realistic viewpoint, I need to make money when I graduate in order to have the time and funds to enjoy literature. So I am now pursuing my passion unofficially outside of school.

I haven't a clue whether I've made the right decision. When I volunteered to write this article in May, I was still a staunch English major. Now I'm simply confused – certainly in no position to pretend I have the answers for the new freshmen with the same interests as I.

But I do know one thing: I feel somewhat empty since I gave up English. I feel like I've lost my individuality, the one characteristic that set me off from every other hardworking Hopkins student. I had a passion and I was devoted

to it. Nothing mattered but my own internal realization of language's intricacy and beauty.

Now, I'm IR like half the school, impassioned and complaining about those pesky economics requirements. I feel like I've lost something, and I want it back.

Reading over this article, I find it completely transformed from what I originally intended it to be. I started the story fully intending to persuade freshmen humanities majors to convert to IR-dom. And now, I've done a complete turnabout. What was meant to be an instructional article for freshmen morphed into an explanation of my own confusion ... the confusion of a humanities major in a world that respects the sciences.

But after all my confused rambling, I have one recommendation for freshmen humanities majors: Do what you love.



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How to enjoy your first semester to the fullest (and still not fail out)

Our "worldly sophomore" gives her best advice on what to expect and strive for in your academics and social life, both on and off campus

By Jessica Valdez

October of my freshman year:

Only five minutes after I met him, a sophomore on my floor leaned familiarly toward me, his lanky body balanced on the chair's armrest in Wolman lounge. A self-satisfied smirk bared his teeth and I groaned inwardly as I sensed what was coming.

He crossed his arms with blatant selfsatisfaction — to emphasize his authority, I guessed as I watched him. And then it came.

'You know, when I was a freshman, I wish I had known ..." and the undesired advice dribbled from his mouth as if he were a drooling baby.

I don't remember a word he said as soon as I heard his introduction, the sound was muted from my consciousness. I simply watched his thin lips open and shut like a fish, marveling that he actually imagined that one year made him all that more experi-

Well, I was wrong. Now that I'm the worldly sophomore,

You are a freshman at Hopkins. Not College Park. Not UMBC. Not University of Louisiana.

I know firsthand how dynamic freshman year can be. My values overturned and my beliefs questioned, I think I develop into a more mature, self-sufficient person. Yes, I learned a lot my freshman year, much more than American politics or statistics. But had I listened to the advice of the upperclassmen, perhaps I wouldn't have had to experience so much firsthand. So now I'm going to spill my advice, whether you're interested or not - keep read-

For my first tip, let me make it simple: You are a freshman at Hopkins. Not College Park. Not UMBC. Not University of Louisiana. Hopkins is not like other schools. Here, many students forget to have fun.

My tip? Don't become one of them! For every opportunity that arises to hang out with friends, ditch the work and

have fun. You don't need a stellar GPA - in fact, sometimes you learn more from social interaction than a book ever could teach you.

A year from now, you won't fondly recall the nights you were closeted in level D at the library (unless you were throwing wads of paper across the table at your friends) you will remember outings to the grocery store, aimless wanderings in the Inner Harbor and movies at Towson, Sigh.

Another tip: A good friend always distracts a friend from work.

But how do you know if you are studying too much? I use two methods: I realize my life has approached a pathetic state if 1) I am part of the mass exodus from the library to the Hut (open 24 hours) at the library's closing time of 2 a.m. or 2) I have spent more than two consecutive Friday or Saturday nights closeted in the

But there's one simple way to avoid the common Hopkins disease of overstudying: don't be pre-med! I can't emphasize it more. If you want any sort of life, you must avoid this end at

But whether you're pre-med or a sociology major, it's of key importance not to shut yourself in your room. I don't care if you're studying or playing computer games (which, boys, the girls find very unattractive). Even if you don't consider yourself social - which was myself a year ago push yourself out to meet people, especially in the first week! In the beginning, most freshmen are open to new friendships since everyone is flung alone into an unfamiliar setting. But after a few weeks, cliques set into place and it becomes difficult to meet people without a common acquaintance. So go to every Orientation event offered, because you never know where you will find your friends

While you'll forge strong friendships during your freshman year, don't lose contact with your friends from home. Summer may seem an eon away, but that's only an illusion since it creeps up on you without notice and flings you back home into your old environment. Unless you enjoy solitary meditation, you'll need your old friends to wile away the time.

Now, for the academics:



EMILY NALVEN/FILE PHOTO

A then-freshman devotes his first-semester time toward other pursuits.

Don't expect much from professors and even less from TAs (teaching assistants). Professors care more about their research than their undergraduate students, though there can be exceptions. Too often I have taken classes that taught me nothing. As for TAs — well, need I

Grades are total b.s., at least in the non-sciences. Two different TAs could read the same paper and allot two completely different grades.

Don't sign up for classes merely because they sound interesting in the catalogue. Always talk to upperclassmen about their experiences in the class. A bad professor can mutate an interesting subject into torture. As an aspiring writer, I signed up for Introduction to Fiction and Poetry Writing and I have never loathed a class so pas-

Don't get involved in too many extracurricular activities if you want to maintain your sanity - though I do recommend writing for the news section of The News-Letter. E-mail me at jvaldez2@jhem.jhu.edu for more infor-

One last tidbit of advice: be careful crossing Charles St. from Wolman that is, if you want to survive your freshman year intact.

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JHU's best kept secret: Film major

By Emily Mayer

OK, so I'm a big dork. I love going to class, I really love the school aspect of college and I truly enjoy doing my homework. No, I'm not captivated with spending hours poring over words or numbers; I'm a Film and Media Studies major and proud to be one of the happy few. If you are like most other Hopkins students, you are most likely thinking, "We have that major?" And let me be bold and tell you that if you go through four years at this institution without taking a class in the department, you will be making a huge mistake.

As a Film and Media major, the options are truly endless. Whether you are interested in making films, studying cinema history, learning about television, discussing cultural criticism or even writing your own screenplay, the professors and department directors are ecstatic to be facilitating your growth in any creative direction.

The classes offered are often interdisciplinary as well, allowing students the opportunity to mix two passions, such as French history and film, or media and technology. When I tell friends and family my class schedule for the new semester they can't help but laugh that instead of microeconomics or statistics, I plan on taking classes such as Intermedia Studio, Sports Film and one of my favorites, Sex on Television. Not only do we have to opportunity to study how film and television is made, but we are also challenged to take classes such as Film and Digital Video production where we make our own attempts at stardom.

As a very visual learner, I found myselfbenefitting from this very hands on approach to learning. The lectures are mixed with film screenings and the tutorials are combined with film test shoots. While my roommate is heading off to D level to study orgo, I'm rushing over to Penn Station to film an action scene set to music. Plus, for someone who can't function any earlier than noon, most classes in the department are once a week in the afternoons, in order to provide for intense discussions and thorough periods of time to get projects accomplished.

So great, college is a time to spend doing something you love, but what about after graduation? I mean, what can you do with a degree in Film and Media Studies? The answer is, almost

anything. Students go on to work for independent filmmakers, network television stations, newspapers and major movie distributors. In order to help assure that their majors will find themselves swimming in job offers, the department's heads take many important steps to helping students find internships and make crucial connections.

During Intersession for instance, a class is offered in the Writing Seminars department that takes students to New York to network with alumni who work in journalism, communications or the arts. This has provided interested students with connections to companies such as FOX News, Sotheby's, The Food Network, and GQ Magazine. This year, the Film and Media Stud-

ies program plans to hold their own



COURTESY OF HTTP://JEFFMAKESAMOVIE.COM Jeff Novich ('02) was one of Hopkins' best-known student filmmakers.

Intersession class where alumni plans to give informational lectures on the media industry. This class will also travel to New York in order to visit some of these alumni at their organizations.

In addition to internship opportunities, the department has organized a list serve that they use to pass along job opportunities and contests that all majors are invited to enter. One such email recently asked for a major to be a film assistant for the TV show Elimidate which was to be filming in the Baltimore area at the end of the summer. With the department looking out for you like this, you are sure to find a career you love.

Not only are the department heads consistently working to improve the major, but the professors are some of the most passionate and animated teachers I have ever experienced. What's even better is that they bring their professional expertise to class with them as one professor has just signed a contract with Mirimax for a screenplay, while another is often solicited by PBS to make documentaries

If for some godforsaken reason you decide not to take any classes in the Film and Media Department, at least come enjoy the projects that students produce at the short film festivals held at the end of every semester. Who knows, in 10 years you may be telling your kids that you once knew the person up on that stage accepting the Academy Award.

For more information check out: http://www.jhu.edu/~english/ film media



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"Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else."

-Will Rogers

It takes a (Charles) Village

By Audrey Henderson

If one thing completes Johns Hopkins University, it's neighboring Charles Village. A quiet neighborhood with a laid-back character all its own, it is a one-stop shop for students' daily needs. It is also where the majority of upperclassmen choose to live - in apartment buildings and row houses up and down tree-lined streets. Charles Village begins just east of campus on Charles St. and extends several blocks east to Greenmount Ave., south to the 25th Street area and north to University Pkwy. It is a large neighborhood, but for most Johns Hopkins students, Charles Village really means the strip of stores and restaurants along St. Paul St.

With several cafes, restaurants, pubs, a dry cleaner, grocery store, florist, video rental, gift shop, liquor store, bagel shop and the legendary Royal Farms and University Mini-Mart, Charles Village is a daily student hangout and convenient for late night outings. One of the qualities about the stores in Charles Village that students often overlook is that almost every store, particularly the ones on St. Paul St., caters to the unpredictable and odd-hour schedules that students keep, because we are the core of their business.

University Mini-Mart, known as "UniMini", is located at the corner of St. Paul and 33rd St. Although it is a convenience store, it is most well-known for its delicious sandwiches at rock-bottom prices. It also sells snack foods, drinks, newspapers and random office supplies. UniMini is open daily until midnight.

Royal Farms, which is almost always called "RoFo," is located directly across from UniMini on 33rd St. and is one of the only stores open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is also a fast food joint offering sandwiches and fried chicken. For donut lovers, RoFo is a godsend with its Krispy Kreme donut stand. The only downside to RoFo is that it seems to get held up, usually at gun point, more often than any other store in Charles Village.

There are a number of sit-down restaurants, most of which also do takeout, along St. Paul and Charles St. XandO, Ruby Tuesday and Blimpie Subs are located along Charles St. in the Homewood Apartments. On St. Paul St, choices include Tamber's Nifty Fifties Diner, Subway, Orient Express,

Rocky Run, Charles Village Pub and Donna's. A quick walk to the border of Charles Village and Waverly on Greenmount Ave. will take to you to the number one rated Thai restaurant in Baltimore, appropriately named Thai Restaurant. Finally, Niwana, located on 33rd St, at the bottom of the Blackstone Apartments, serves up authentic Japanese and Korean cuisine.

Also in the Homewood Apartments is a good new and used music store, Recordand Tape Traders, and a Kinko's, for all your photocopying needs. In the back of the building is Tenpachi, a salon that offers standard haircuts for \$10, by far the cheapest in the area.

Eddie's Market, a family-run grocery store on St. Paul St, is a small, gourmet shop that can whip up a "Charles Villager" or a "Blue Jay" sandwich at its deli. For those days when a mile-long walk or drive to the nearest supermarket isn't convenient, Eddie's Market is the perfect solution. The store also has a lot of Hopkins pride, so expect good treatment.

On St. Paul St, Charles Village Pub, known as "CVP," and P.J.'s Pub on Charles St. are the local bars frequented nightly by students. P.J.'s cards at the door, but CVP is also a diner, so it's open to anyone. Across the street from CVP is a movie lover's dream, a video rental store with titles organized by director. Video Americain has every great movie ever made plus a lot of independent films. It beats Blockbuster

hands down.

Sam's Bagels is great for breakfast food on the go and Gordon Florist is a classy place to pick up flowers for a friend. For students who can buy alcohol, Eddie's Liquors on St. Paul St. and The Schnapp Shop on Guilford Ave. are convenient places to pick up beer, hard liquor and wine.

Cuppa Cabana, located across from Sam's Bagels, on St. Paul St, is a cute, eclectic coffee shop that is a favorite of locals.

Charles Village may be no Greenwich Village, but it certainly has enough to fulfill your needs. There are many more small shops and eateries, but without enough room to describe them all, you'll just have to go out and explore.



Baltimore's got crabs ... and more

Drop the Rofo chicken and you'll find that Baltimore has of fine plenty restaurants to offer. Whether it's chicken wings or Vietnamese Pho, this place has it all.

By James Lieu

I remember back in the days when Terrace and Wolman were my only sources for food, thanks to the blasted 19-meal plan that I signed up for. Thus it took me quite awhile to realize that outside of these fine Sodexho establishments, Baltimore had plenty of culinary delights to tickle any taste bud. Here we take a look at the surrounding areas of Baltimore and my favorites eateries in

Fortunately, there are quite a few great places to eat just a few steps outside of your dorms in Charles Village. On St. Paul St. you can have your choice of either great Indian cuisine or All-American food at Tamber's Nifty Fifties Diner. Great burgers, shakes and appetizers are right next to Indian dishes such as Tikka Massala and my personal favorite, Chicken Korma, a rich curry dish with large pieces of chicken. Large helpings at pretty cheap prices make this a sensible place to go.

Just down the block on 32nd and Charles is Niwana, an excellent restauclam, shrimp and tempura in a tasty broth. Prices here are reasonable for the quality of food you receive, and during lunch, prices are generally

If you don't mind walking down a couple blocks, Hopkins Square is home to Ruby Tuesday, and an occasional visit to a national chain restaurant is always nice. Their food has improved significantly over the past year, and the menu always seems to have something new. Try the Creole Catch, a fish fillet over rice pilaf or the Church Street Chicken, a seasoned chicken breast with melted cheese and mushrooms over rice pilaf. Though the entrees are a bit expensive, you can always get your money's worth by getting one of their huge burgers. A colossal burger would be a huge disappointment if you could get one bite to fit in your mouth. Fortunately, the burgers there live up to their names while being relatively

Another good place to eat near Homewood is the friendly Blimpie right next to Tuesdays and XandO. A bit hidden from the public, you can't overlook their monstrous subs. The bread is fresh and the meat comes off a rack instead of being precut. They load on the sides and always do so with great service. The breaded chicken sub and the club sub are my choices for having a great lunch or dinner. But watch out for that guy Omar that works there; he's a troublemaker.

Just a mere 15 minutes walk away from campus is the quaint little town of Hampden, which is home to many a great place to eat. There is the Café vegetables. How cool is it to eat the bowl after eating what came inside it? Hampden is home to many other little restaurants and also to the premier Royal Farms in the area. The two-story high convenience store has mural of the sky painted across the dome-shaped

personal-sized pizzas? Their selection is unique and most all pizzas there are very tasty.

Another bustling place down at the harbor is Phillips, where you can get a taste of that famous Maryland seafood. Personally, most of their



Hampden's Cafe Hon is renowned for embodying the old Bawlmer spirit.

roof of the building. Hot food is always cooking or can be cooked, unlike the one close to the school. A large selection of candy, chips, drinks and other goodies make this the only store worthy of the being called Royal Farms instead of the overly simplified and denigrating

If you are willing to cough up the cash to hitch a cab, you can find many places just a short distance away. Around the Peabody Conservatory are many little restaurants that offer great food at great prices. Minato is a busy Japanese restaurant that has some good Vietnamese Pho, in case you are craving those buckwheat noodles in broth. Midtown Yacht Club serves up some mighty wings, and Sacha's 527 offers entrees under \$15 while keeping the atmosphere trendy and non-Wolman-

Go down further to Inner Harbor and you will have a choice between many national restaurant chains. Cheesecake Factory is a place almost everyone will want to go, just because it's Cheesecake Factory. Chicken marsala, chicken breast smothered in some gooey brown sauce and mushrooms, is one of the best dishes I've had there. But be prepared to wait. They don't accept reservations, and hourlong waits are very common during peak dinner times.

If you don't have the patience to wait, walk right across the hall to the California Pizza Kitchen, which usually never has a line. That doesn't mean their food isn't good though. How can you go wrong with small,

menu has a lot of baked or fried seafood, which isn't that great. But their freshly steamed and cooked seafood, without all of the batter, is great. Try the Seafood Bake for Two. It's a heavyweight at around \$60, but it is a big bucket filled with clams, mussels, shrimp, crawfish, crab and lobster. They are all steamed, buttered up and very good.

A bit past the Inner Harbor is Little Italy, the center of Baltimore's Italian cuisine. There are too many little restaurants that I have not been to, but if you are in search of Italian food and hate the Olive Garden, take a little walk down these streets to see if you find anything to your liking. Vacarro's is the place to go afterwards for rich, thick cheesecake, cream puffs and other assorted desserts too sweet for those with

The restaurants don't just end at the Harbor; going the opposite way into suburbia opens up many other great places outside of the Greatest City in America. Szechuan House on York Road is the place to go for reasonably priced Chinese food in great serving sizes. The cooks here add an extra element even to the most generic of Chinese dishes.

A little further down York and you will enter another college town with a great college restaurant: Bill Bateman's. Come on, how can you beat all you can eat wings on Mondays? This place serves up a mean rack of ribs too, but hey, any place is tolerable if it has a right atmosphere to it. Bateman's does.



NEWS-LETTER STAFF/FILE PHOTO

You'll want to check out the wings at this Towson establishment.

rant specializing in Japanese and Korean cuisine. Here you will find a great assortment of sushi and many entrees, including bento boxes that have tempura and vegetables with either chicken or beef, fried rice combinations and an amazing udon noodle dish with Hon, where you can enjoy great homemade pies after an entrée. Holy Frijoles is a hole-in-the-wall Mexican place that serves real Mexican food, not Taco Bell style. The taco salads are served in a gigantic tortilla bowl and are packed with beans, chicken, steak, cheese and

And on this street corner... fast food

The Battle between UniMini and Rofo

By Julianna Finelli

Among the many St. Paul Street shops that cater to Hopkins students, the University MiniMart and the Royal Farms convenience store, located on opposite sides of the intersection of 33rd and St. Paul streets, are favorites for college-student staples: ice cream, cigarettes, snacks and, of course, coffee. However, when standing in the middle of 33rd Street, which way should a Hopkins student go in order to attain these necessities?

Whileboth stores are generally comparable, each has a certain taste and style all its own. The University MiniMart, owned by Sam Hamideh, has been around for 10 years. With its deli sandwiches, snack foods, toiletries, and lottery tickets, the "UniMini" offers "a little bit of everything," according to Hamideh. In addition, the UniMini features international foods, and accepts JCards (a convenience in its own right). Hamideh believes students are primarily drawn to the mart's custom-made deli sandwiches and famous milkshakes, although he also credits the convenience and variety offered by the small but jam-packed store.

"Basically, we cover everything,"



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

The 'Monkey Guy' is sure to bother you at Rofo.

said Hamideh. "[The students] depend on us for variety."

The Royal Farms convenience store, which is part of a Maryland-based chain, stocks all the name-brand snack foods; whether it's Doritos or Cheetos you crave, Royal Farms (affectionately termed "Rofo" by Hopkins students) has it. Manager Malcolm Serio feels it is Rofo's signature fried chicken and deli, however, which really draw Hopkins students.

They are very in love with the deli," explained Serio.

Another certain draw of Rofo is the fact that it never closes. Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Rofo is the drunk/ insomniac student's best friend. Brave Rofo employees who work the night shift are no strangers to frat-party stragglers. Rofo can also boast the cheapest cigarettes in the area.

Simply put, for your name-brand stand-bys, or for late-night coffee and donuts, head over to Rofo. If it's something unusual or homemade you crave. cross the street to the UniMini.

Word has it, however, that Rofo's days are numbered, as the University plans to buy out all buildings on each side of 33rd Street in order to accommodate students with more University housing and a new bookstore. Yet, at least for this year, the battle between Rofo and UniMini rages on



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

Across the street from RoFo, UniMini is renowned for its subs.

The Digital Media Center: 21st Century Art

By David Leiman

When students go to the recently completed Mattin Center for the Arts, they do not always realize that within its walls lies a hub of professional technology to help them create the art of the 21st century. The Digital Media Center (DMC), which opened in 2001, has a vast array of equipment and personnel to assist students in creating projects, curricular or not, using the latest digital technology

The DMC offers students the opportunity to create art in a variety of ways, including video, audio and computer-assisted outlets, Video Specialist Kira Hammond said. The lab mainly consists of computer-based functions, while video, audio, presentation and teaching specialty labs also exist, Hammond said.

Despite the richness of the technology, though, this resource is strictly for students to have fun and learn on their own. "No classes meet here, no departments are aligned with us," Hammond said. The main thrust of the DMC is for "students to get artistic know-how."

In order to accomplish this task, the DMC has permanent staff specialists in digital and audio technology as well as student employees. This may be one of the most important resources. According to senior Marty Tabaksblat, "the staff is very knowledgeable and anxious to help." The DMC also hosts guest lecturers and artists.

Students can also attend tutorials that are regularly given in graphics design, audio workshops and editing, Hammond said. Once students feel they have begun mastering a technique, they can use the equipment on their own. Some feel this sense of empowerment is the best part. "It was awesome to be able to borrow equipment like digital video cameras," Tabaksblat said.

Although the DMC has only been open for a year, it has been a vision of Hopkins higher-ups for years. Anxious not to lose students because there were not enough fun activities at school, the deans felt that the DMC might provide more creative outlets for students, Hammond said.

Even as the DMC experiences some

technical problems, students are beginning to realize the value of this resource. "There was a problem with the systems crashing, but it is a great resource," Tabaksblat said. "I used it for digital video production class, but I'd definitely use it again."

Even in its short time on campus, the DMC has already made an impact. Students have already begun utilizing this resource. "I am constantly amazed by projects that come out of here,"

Hammond said. "The Mental Notes a capella group was able to put out their own CD.

Even so, Hammond says the DMC still has room to grow. The DMC's website is one way it is able to expand, by offering links to tips and tutorials about digital art techniques. Nonetheless, the DMC hopes to get even more students involved. "We want to get our name out there and increase awareness on campus," she said.



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/FILE PHOTO

Light floods through the windows of the Digital Media Center.

Drop that six-pack of beer and you can finally get those six-pack abs

By Ron Demeter

Every year, millions of college freshmen learn about the phenomenon of the "freshman 15." Caused by an overindulgence in sweets, unlimited cafeteria food and the consumption of alcohol, the freshman 15 is the 15 or so extra pounds many students gain during their first year at college. In order to combat this fatty trend, there are a number of measures Hopkins students take to win the battle of the bulge.

My fitness method of choice is weight training. Not only does this help to build muscle but it helps in burning fat as well. The more muscle a person has the more calories he/she burns. Every pound of muscle burns roughly 35 calories a day. Gaining a few pounds of muscle might help you lose those 10 pounds of fat you've been wanting to drop. The easiest muscles to build are in your legs. Most people make the mistake of only training their upper body. The largest muscles in one's body are in their legs, especially the quadriceps, hamstrings, gluts and calves. While of-

ten times overlooked, muscle gain can be easily achieved by working these out. Because your body tends to grow proportionately, working out your legs may even help stimulate growth in your upper body.

The key to gaining muscle is not actually spending more time lifting; it is more involved in your recovery. A person can lift weights three times a week for an hour each day and expect muscle gain. Lifting for more than an hour can cause muscular atrophy and actually hinder your weight training.

When lifting weights, the key to building muscle is using correct form. It is far easier to cheat, but in doing so, you fail to focus on the muscle group as well as you could. Try not to lift every set until you reach exhaustion. Instead of doing one set of 20 with a weight, try doing three sets of 10. Although your muscles may not tire as much, you are actually working them better by doing 30 repetitions of an exercise instead of

Another key to staying in shape is by engaging in cardiovascular activities. These activities may consist of going for a jog, a long walk, playing a game of basketball or using a treadmill. These activities make your heart work harder so in time, they will lower your resting heart rate. All of these activities raise your metabolism and burn more calories every time you do them. In fact, this time period of increased metabolism can actually last up to a half hour after you have exercised.

The best place on campus to engage in these aerobic activities is in the Recreation Center where numerous treadmills, elliptical machines and an indoor track are located for your benefit.

There is also a small exercise room in the basement of AMR 2 for residents in the freshmen quad. Rooms also exist on the second floor of McCoy and in the basement of Wolman. They are accessible if you feel the need for a late night run after the Recreation Center has

There are also numerous places to jog around campus; the most popular routes are along University Pkwy. and

The key to losing fat is to burn more calories than you consume. By eating foods that contain fewer calories or avoiding food loaded with calories, you should manage to keep your calorie consumption below or at the level of calories that you burn in a day. For example, red meat is far fattier and has more calories than fish, turkey or chicken. Other foods loaded with calories are usually on the dessert tray at Terrace. I am not advising you to avoid them, because they're just too damn

The other fat culprit often indulged by college students is alcohol. How do you think the term "beer belly" came about? Alcoholic beverages are loaded with calories. When alcoholenters your stomach, the digestive enzymes convert it almost literally straight to fat. So if you feel like a big man for downing 10 shots at a party, well, keep doing it; you will definitely be a very large man.

So try to live a healthy life-style at Hopkins. Fit people generally live longer, have fewer health problems and get laid more often.

Is B'more the greatest city in America?

Many Hopkins students seem to detest living in Baltimore. If you listen to the jaded whiners, you'll hear that this city is a boring, unsafe, STD-infested cesspool with muggers, serial killers and gibbering madmen on every street corner. But if you ask them, most Baltimore-hating students will tell you that they never venture far from campus. Frankly, Charles Village isn't that exciting and it's unfair to judge the rest of the city based on one area alone.

Baltimore has a lot to offer and each neighborhood has its own unique character. Hampden features inexpensive food and shopping, while Mount Vernon has cultural attractions and amazing restaurants. For upscale tourist spots and nightclubs, the Inner Harbor is sure to entertain. Near the Harbor is Fell's Point, a lively Pedestrian-friendly area with bars and shops. Between these neighborhoods and more, there are plenty of places to have a good time.

Some students like to complain about the lack of commercial franchises in the city — for example, how there's no McDonald's locations anywhere near campus. Well, boo hoo — no loss there. The prevalence of independent store owners is what makes Baltimore special; eating at a restaurant like the

By Evan Elias Paper Moon Diner or Holy Frijoles is preferable to fast food garbage that you can get at every interstate exit in the country. Similarly, in video stores like Video Americain and music stores like Soundgarden and Record and Tape Traders, shoppers will find better service and selection than in retail chains. Meanwhile, independent cinemas like the Senator and the Charles Theatre offer a great atmosphere and a wider variety of offerings than can be found at other more commercial movie the-

Of course, there are some negative aspects to the Baltimore experience. For starters, the public transportation system is abysmal. The light rail and metro subway are both virtually nonexistent, have no stops near campus and close too early. The bus system is somewhat usable, but has shady passengers and poor hours. For transportation at night, students must resort to

expensive cab rides.

Like most post-industrial American cities, Baltimore isn't the safest of places to be walking around at 3 a.m. Although neighborhoods like Charles Village and the Inner Harbor are significantly safer than low-income areas Greenmount, it's still possible to get robbed or assaulted anywhere in the city. When walking around at night, travel in groups and stay alert. Getting harassed by panhandlers can be annoying, but they're usually harmless.

Clearly, Baltimore has a few shortcomings, but no city is perfect. With its independent spirit and low cost of living, Baltimore is a nice enough place to live for college students. It's obviously not the greatest city in America (or even a City That Reads, the previous mayor's chosen moniker for Baltimore), but it's still a charming place to call home.



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER These slogans are printed on most benches, perhaps to reassure the city.

SEPTEMBER 5, 2002

Play that funky music, white boy

From Baltimore to D.C., check out these various venues for your concert going needs

By Evan Elias

Sick of your roommate's constant half-assed guitar playing and horribly off-key singing? Get away from campus for the night and check out one of Baltimore's many concert venues. There may not be many big-name bands playing here often, but there's a ton of shows featuring up-and-coming bands at reasonable prices.

The closest venue to Hopkins — and arguably one of the best in the city — is the Ottobar. Located at 25th and Howard, it's within shuttle or walking distance of campus.

A lot of lesser-known bands play here, spanning a wide range of music genres that includes punk, indie rock, jazz, reggae, ska, techno and more. The Ottobar has shows almost every night, and tickets tend to be only \$10

There are several other venues that are hipster hotspots like the Ottobar. Fletcher's, located in Fell's Point, is one such venue. The Sidebar is another popular bar-oriented venue. The Talking Head, which recently opened in Mount Vernon, is also similar. But these



MIKE FISCHER / FILE PHOTO

The Roots got the party started at Spring Fair 2002.

three venues are all very small, so expect a cramped show, especially if the band is decent.

The Recher Theatre in Towson is perhaps the classiest venue in the area. The decor and atmosphere in this place are great; it was originally a dazzling single-screen movie theatre in decades past. It's now a 700-capacity

concert venue featuring national and regional talent, with several concerts per week.

The largest concert spots in the city are the Baltimore Arena and the Pier Six Concert Pavilion. If a major national tour is hitting Baltimore, it will be in one of these two places. Recent bands playing at these venues include

Incubus, Tool, Coldplay and Live. Unfortunately, most national tours skip Baltimore, opting instead to play in nearby Washington, D.C.

But if you're willing to travel to D.C., the 9:30 Club is well worth the trip. This mid-sized concert venue boasts an excellent sound system and a double-level balcony, plus consistently great headlining bands. But getting back to Baltimore after a show is nearly impossible without a car, since the D.C. subway and MARC trains both shut down around

Going to D.C. is also a must for clubbers and ravers, since D.C. spots like Nations and The Edge regularly feature international superstar DJs. Sadly, you won't find many of these renowned DJs spinning anywhere in Baltimore though. But nonetheless, if your clubbing is confined to Baltimore, check out places like Redwood Trust, Sonar Lounge, Paradox and Club Fusion for great music with decent atmospheres. You won't find any spectacular superclubs like in Miami or New York, but going clubbing in Baltimore still beats sitting around listening to your



Is JHU worth the money?

Are students (and their parents) being robbed at a price of \$35k, while state schools charge only a third of that?

By Eric Ridge

The economy is struggling, the world markets are down, and consumer confidence has fallen. But even through economic woes and terror attacks, little seems to deter families from the pricey proposition of sending their children to expensive private schools. Through both the good economic times and the bad, would-be freshmen line up every spring for the mere chance to shell out the \$35,000 a year it costs to attend a private university like Johns Hopkins.

But in the end, is the cost of Hopkins really worth it when a public school's \$11,000 per year tuition beckons? Is the education really better here than at a less expensive school? Does a Hopkins grad enter the world after college with advantages over a grad from generic

Not surprisingly, the answer invariably depends on whom you ask. From the student perspective, the value of college is increasingly measured in much broader terms than the traditional notion of attending a school based solely on the quality of education. This rising collective student sentiment has not fallen on deaf ears. In fact, college administrators have taken notice and have begun to strongly emphasize the idea that there's more to college life than professors, books, and tests.

This growing inclination across campuses nationwide seems to be aimed at ensuring that high paying students are getting not just an education, but that they are gaining a unique, once-in-alifetime experience by attending a private university. In recent years, college administrators at schools like Harvard and Yale have engineered a marked shift away from focusing solely on the value of a private school education to emphasizing the entire campus life that one encounters. It's called the "undergraduate experience" and to some it offers further proof that colleges are doing more than ever to make sure that students are not only well educated, but that they're they are also happy.

The happiness factor cannot possibly be overrated when considering whether a pricey private college is worth the money

Recent news reports of a spate of suicides at M.I.T are not exactly the press coverage that admissions board members relish. Instead, the image of a happy, youthful, and well-educated student body speaks volumes about the schoolitself and sends the message to parents that they need not fret unnecessarily about their child. Schools that once boasted about an academic program of the highest rigor have been forced to question whether that is what parents and their children want to hear. Parents are, after all, the ones whose deep pockets keep private schools in business. But student opinions about their schools are vital resources that future applicants use to

gauge whether to consider attending or applying to a school. Word of mouth and student satisfaction are hugely important. As a result, now more than ever, schools are sending the powerful message that their students are not only getting a top-notch education, but that

they are happy.

They're banking on the age-old truth that many college students have an unexplainable, sanguine inclination to talk about their school like it is one-ofa-kind, a gem that derives from the perfect mix of ingredients and puts all other schools to shame. The examples are as widespread as the number of students flooding MSE the night before an Orgo exam. Hopkins students refer to "the beach" with a mix of awe and fondness as if such a structure is the eighth wonder of the world. But we aren't the only school to have a grassy area where students do a mix of studying, gossiping, and exercising. In fact, with only a few notable exceptions, many universities have similar areas also called "the beach," or at least named with a similar connotation in mind. But the example isn't limited to a grassy area on our college campus. Rather, it's emblematic of a much bigger theme involving students as a whole, one that is potentially dangerous to the notion of expensive, private universities. If so many college students think of their school as the best one and "the only one for them," is it possible that they all found the perfect schools for themselves?

The more reasonable, yet unpopular assumption is that the average college student would have been happy in more than one place. If the latter is true, maybe the ones whose parents are shelling out \$35,000 a year are being swindled. That line of thinking takes



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

How many bricks could you buy with your tuition money?

the discussion back to the education debate, one in which parents are almost always more engaged than their kids. A plethora of experts have long contended that generally a private school education is better than one from a public school. Proponents of private schools tout that these schools can be more selective which means that they can teach more effectively because all of the students enter on a similar level. Private schools also tend to have fewer students, which permits for smaller classes, and more one-on-one or small group interaction with professors. They often have higher paid staff as well, which leads one to reasonably assume that they can attract the most qualified candidates. The boring but conventional benchmarks for measuring a good education seem to corroborate these claims.

Aschool's student-faculty ratio is one such indicator because it measures the individual attention a student can receive at any given school. Hopkins' 10:1 ratio is comparable with its peers, bested by schools like Harvard and Princeton. both which have slightly better averages, at 8:1, but much better than most public counterparts. The University of California San Diego has a 17:1 ratio, University of Texas; Austin's ratio is

The much maligned, yet hugely influential U.S. News and World Report rankings index of America's Best Colleges also publishes an annual indicator of a school's educational prowess. For better or worse, schools that are ranked highly in the U.S. News rankings usually experience an increase in applications in the following years, giving the publication unprecedented power. In the overall index for the 2001-2002 year, out of the top fifty doctoral schools in the nation, nineteen of the top twenty schools are private. But the choice is not as clear-cut as it might seem. Experts also suggest that there is something to be said for the educational value that no index, report, or study can measure. For public universities, the biggest academic selling point almost certainly derives from the perception of increased diversity inside and outside of the classroom. From the sheer numbers of students that public schools on the whole accept, it is true that public schools have the opportunity to encourage diversity through increased interaction with people of different ethnicities, socioeconomic backgrounds, and intellec-

While private schools have certainly made strides, numbers don't lie and the total number of students enrolled in public schools compared to those in private schools is staggeringly slanted. With the increased number of students enrolled at public universities comes the increased chance that the student body reflects a cross section of society. Feel like you're going in circles yet? If you do, you're not alone, which brings us back to the question at hand.

The bottom line is that there are advantages to both public and private universities. Most often, students should make the decision about whether the cost of a school is worthwhile by weighing the positives against the negatives. Unfortunately, there is no simple formula, no quick solution to determine whether the cost of Hopkins, or any private school is worth it. Often times there are a few adequate ways to answer the question, but just one way that really makes sense: only you can decide what's best.

Student shot on St. Paul Street

Angry resident fires pellet gun, injuring Hopkins student during block party.

By Jeremiah Crim and Mike Spector

A Johns Hopkins University student was shot on the buttocks early Wednesday morning while she attended a series of parties on the 3200 block of St. Paul Street. The suspect, a heavy-set white male who lives on the block, allegedly brandished a pellet gun and shot the victim at approximately 1:25 a.m., Baltimore City Police said.

The suspect was arrested by police and will likely be charged with firstdegree aggravated assault, an officer on the scene said. Authorities refused to release the name of the suspect.

Hopkins Security Officer Walter Barnes took the victim to Union Memorial Hospital, where she received Xrays. She was released at approximately 4:30 a.m., Barnes' Security report states. She was not seriously injured.

"The pellet didn't get lodged," the victim said. "It skimmed [my skin] and

Police responded to a call for a possible handgun violation, Baltimore City Police Officer L.S. Davidson said. When they arrived, the suspect concealed what police said appeared to be a black handgun.

We felt unsafe approaching him," and treated it as if it was a real gun, Davidson said.

After detaining the suspect, who claimed that he had used the weapon to protect his property from partygoers, police explained to him that "he couldn't come out with a black gun."

"[We] let him know it looked like a real gun," Davidson said.

He explained that if the suspect had complaints about a party next door, he should have called police instead of brandishing a weapon.

The suspect was also very drunk, he

"I was standing about 18 inches away from the guy. He told me I had 'a nice ass,"" the victim said. "[Then] I turned around, heard a pop and then felt a stinging pain. I realized I'd been shot.

"I'm fine now," she said. "I'm from [around] here, and I'm used to the streets. Pretty much the only thing I'm sacred of is running into this guy again."

When asked about the incident, Dean of Students Susan Boswell said she was "shocked. [This] is not the kind of activity we are comfortable with."

Boswell stressed the importance of making Hopkins students more aware of the potential for incidents like this to occur, but said the victim had already

"She was not out by herself," Boswell said. "She was doing everything we would tell her to.'

Boswell said that she did not know about Tuesday night's parties in advance.

Though not affiliated with the University, the parties were sponsored by residents of seven houses on the block, including several undergraduates. The second annual "block party" was organized in an attempt to welcome freshmen and improve social life for Hopkins undergraduates.

Police stressed that they were responding to the handgun violation, not to the parties themselves.

"People are supposed to have fun," Davidson said. "[They] dispersed after we responded."

The victim said she had fun at the parties and that it was "unfortunate that this man, who wasn't a Hopkins student, was there.'

'I was definitely in the wrong place at the wrong time," she said.



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

Sex and violence on the block — the 3200 block of St. Paul Street, that is.

Seven houses, \$3,000 and one pain in the ass

By Charles Donefer

On Tuesday afternoon, junior Brian O'Kelly was outside, handing out flyers to freshmen.

"You should have seen their eyes light up when they saw the flyers," said O'Kelly. What were on these joy-inciting flyers? Notice that the University would now pay all contract employees a living wage? Orgo tutoring? Coupons for free Taco Bell at MegaBYTES? Surprisingly, they were not. O'Kelly was handing out flyers for the Second Annual Block Party.

For the uninitiated, the Block Party is an annual event held during Orientation by the residents of student-occupied houses on the East side of the 3200 Block of Saint Paul St. This year, seven houses participated, compared with six for the inaugural event. The concept is simple enough: a partygoer spends \$5 to get a hand-stamp that entitles him or her to go into any of the participating houses and enjoy a wide variety of alcoholic beverages. At the end, the revenue is totaled up, alcohol costs are deducted and the remaining profit is distributed equally among the houses. According to O'Kelly, an organizer of the Block Party, each house took home \$150.

How will 3209 St. Paul, O'Kelly's having a good time," said O'Kelly.

house, spend the money? "Our house looks like crap right now. We're probably going to a pawn shop to get some furniture and stuff."

For those who attended both this and last year's parties, the major difference between the two was that although the police were a presence during this year's party, they did not shut it down. According to block resident Ryan Todd, a senior, last year "it started at around 10, got pretty busy for about 90 minutes and then the police came."

No students were arrested and no citations were handed out.

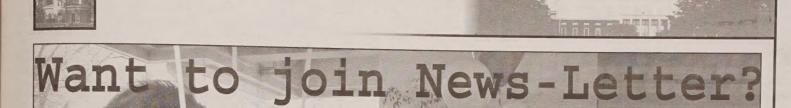
This year, although the party was allowed to continue, the police still found themselves busy, first with an amorous non-affiliated woman known only as "Lynn" and then by "Duck," an heavy-set, non-affiliated air gunwielding man who lives on the block. He allegedly shot a female student in the buttocks with a BB and was subsequently arrested. Despite the arrest, the students (who were mostly freshmen) were largely left alone by police. According to O'Kelly, he and other party organizers spoke to the police officers often and were told to keep the open containers inside and the noise level down. "[The police officers] were

According to O'Kelly, the party grossed \$3,000 in revenue, meaning that between 550 and 600 students attended, not including those who stayed on the street and didn't drink in the houses, approximately one-seventh of the total undergraduate population. For a sense of scale, more people attended the Block Party than Greta Van Susteren's MSE Symposium speech - and approximately twice as many as any Women's Varsity Lacrosse home game during the

What does this mean? According to Todd, "I think that the Block Party is a statement that there is a social life outside of fraternities." In response to complaints he received from Orientation staff that his flyers would lure freshmen from sanctioned Orientation events, O'Kelly said "freshmen are going to do what they want to do.'

Does the successful and bust-free Block Party signal a new generation of Hopkins mega-parties, in which hundreds of students get together to celebrate their mutual love of booze, or will social life return to normal once classes start? Only time will tell.

Summing up the atmosphere of that muggy Tuesday night neatly, O'Kelly said, "Somebody hooked up in the tub in my bathroom. Usually, I'd be pissed, but what the hell."



Check us out this Friday at the SAC activities fair.

Friday, Sept

Freshman quad

The News-Letter would like to thank

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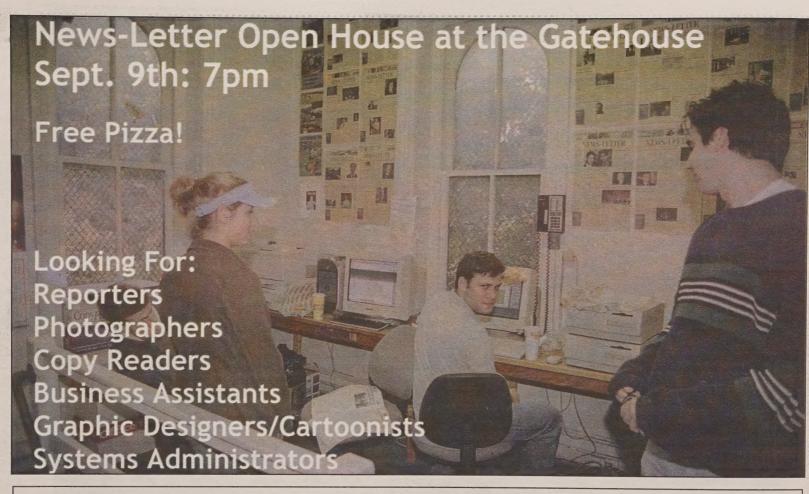
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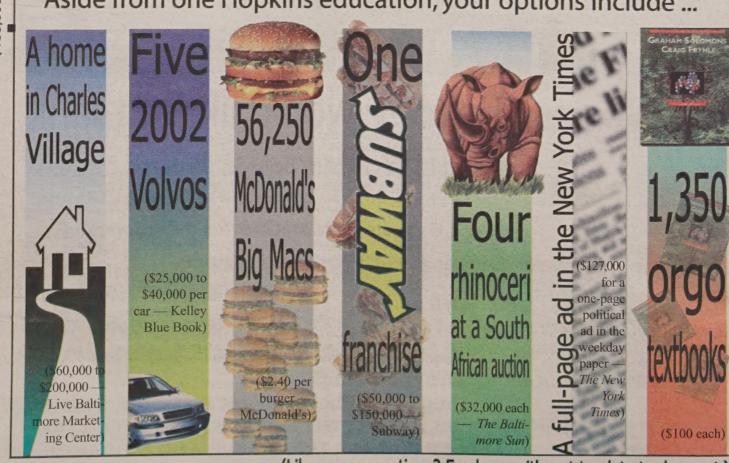
James Phillips of Support Services for the computers.

SEPTEMBER 5, 2002 31



What can you get for \$135,000?

Aside from one Hopkins education, your options include ...



(Like our suggestions? Freshmen, it's not too late to drop out.)